PARTNERS

THIS EDITION

Special Conference Feature Anglicans in Development Reflecting on Reconciliation Rebuilding Nepal



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INSIDE Life in Abundance Conference



Partners in Autumn

EMERGING MISSION ISSUES

4
5
6
8
9
13
14
17
18

ABMAnglican Board of Mission - Australia Working for Love, Hope & Justice

MISSION IS PART OF THE NATURE OF GOD



Dear Friend,

In November 2013, at Busan in South Korea, the World Council of Churches, at its General Assembly, adopted a new Affirmation on Mission and Evangelism, entitled Together Towards Life. This affirmation reflects some significant changes in the understanding of mission and is a document which deserves much more attention throughout the Anglican Church of Australia. However, in my time in ministry and especially at ABM, I have often been struck by how frequently in the life of the Church theory comes after the actual practice and these missional changes are no exception.

The recent mission conference held at Trinity College, appropriately named Life In Abundance, features prominently in this edition of Partners. As part of the planning committee, I was not conscious that at any stage we sought to incorporate aspects of Together Towards Life into the program. Yet, as I now look back and reflect on the inputs and outputs from the Conference, it is abundantly evident that the theological principles and values which underpin the Affirmation have already taken root amongst us and begin to bear fruit.

Central to this Conference was the clear and profound understanding that mission

is part of the nature of God – it lies at the heart of the Trinity. It is God's mission and it is Creation focused. It is not solely about me, the Church or humankind. It is the fulfilling of all that God began and intended and it embraces the whole of Creation. We, the followers of Jesus, are called and led by the Spirit to recognize and participate in God's mission which manifests itself in an amazing variety of ways – many of which may be beyond our understanding.

Our engagement in mission, much like the ministry of Jesus, is built upon a witness which expresses its faithfulness to God through hospitality, mutuality and respect – all of which seemed to be in abundance at the Conference. Furthermore, through the simple yet erudite presentation of Stephen Bevans on the recent Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis on mission, it was heartening to discover that there was so much common ground and goodwill.
You can find more information about the Conference, including recordings of many of the keynote sessions on ABM's website at: www.abmission.org/anglife

The Rev John Deane

EMERGING MISSION ISSUES: A Conference with intention to create Agenda

This Edition of Partners includes a feature about the Life in Abundance conference held in Melbourne in February. The Ven Jan Crombie, Coordinator Parish Partnerships in Melbourne Diocese and Brad Chapman, ABM's Education Missioner write.



How do we take the world's moments to engage in substantive Kingdom change?... and, oh, how do we find language that is culturally connected? Kingdom? ...oh, and what about that bishop from New Zealand who said "Most people want the Kingdom but they reject the King"?

When you invite people to listen to their own listening and the shift in their own knowing, surprising questions emerge. When you invite people to name the issues that need to continue in dialogue on the mission table of the Anglican Church, again, the Holy Spirit surprises.

Such was the culture of the workshops of the "Life in Abundance" Anglican Conference on Mission and Evangelism. Stimulation and holy listening to the other, and encouragement to have the courage to name the sticking points for God's mission growth. 200 Anglicans from all over Australia met in Melbourne at the beginning of February. 'Life in Abundance' was not just discussed, it was embodied in the conference community.

The Dining Hall at Trinity College became the 'emerging issues hub' and the walls were soon covered with ideas and questions for the ongoing agenda, while social media ran hot with quotable inspiration. The young Anglicans who met with Bishop Duckworth for a 'radical discipleship' dialogue contributed challenging concepts.....

Change will come from the 'crazies' – we need more 'crazies'; we need to be wary of hoarding; What would it look like building a sustainable Anglican community from the ground up? The importance of the diversity of practice.

A strongly repeated emerging issue responded to Stephen Pickard's challenging call for faith in the public space... how do we create the common space for the common good, where we can talk about the things that matter?

From amid the rich diversity of conversations and ideas emerging from the conference was the hope that a church which can focus on authentically living as a community of love, forgiveness and reconciliation becomes a manifestation of God's mission and a beacon of the Life in Abundance that God offers to all.

Risky business, allowing the Holy Spirit space. There will be consequences!

AUTHENTIC YOUNG ANGLICANS



Rick Smith from St Richard's of Chichester at Lockleys, Adelaide, attended the Young Anglican's Conference as part of Life In Abundance in February. He reports.

Last year ABM held a retreat for young Anglicans from all over Australia. The first such get-together in many years. In 2016, an effort has been made to integrate young people back into the mainstream during the Life In Abundance conference held in February. But we still stood out! The Bishop of Wellington, Justin Duckworth arrived a day before the conference began to talk to us about Radical Discipleship.

Justin spoke to us about what it means to live in a post-Christendom world, where the social mores associated with Christianity are no longer the community norm. This presents an opportunity. That

opportunity is contingent on us defending against being formed too soon by church elders, so that by 30 we already behave the way a 60-year-old is comfortable with. The Bishop drew a variety of hilarious and non-sensical diagrams to illustrate the way the church hierarchy, laity and even wider society interact to form our theology and liturgy. We discussed what may be the church's weakness: an oversupply of really good theology and liturgy, leaves very little room in most people's lives for anything else. Yet how can we remain relevant to the modern person seeking God's spirituality without creating more? Perhaps we will have to learn to let some things go.

A word on everyone's lips at the conclusion of the day was "authenticity". It's my generation's buzz word, a catch-cry and the zeitgeist. People can tell when you're faking it. Bishop Justin left us with no doubt that we are empowered to be authentic, and we are empowered to be radical disciples.

ASH WEDNESDAY CLIMATE JUSTICE FORUM

"Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people."

Joel 2.15-16

As part of the conference, Anglicans gathered to pray, listen and talk about care of creation and climate justice.

The Ash Wednesday Climate Justice Forum was organised by the Anglican Alliance, the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM), the Public Affairs Commission, and Anglican Overseas Aid.

The participants came from across Australia and the world. They were diverse; young and old, from the inner city and the country, priests and SRC (Social Responsibility Committees) members, scientists and aid workers, church workers, volunteers and lay people.

Ash WednesdayClimate Change ForumPress Release

The Forum heard Rose Elu from the Torres Strait Islands and Tagolyn Kabekabe from the Solomon Islands describe the effect climate change is currently having on their communities and the communities' responses.

Eco-theologian, Mick Pope, talked about theology and the science of climate change; and Professor Neil Ormerod from the Australia Catholic University presented on Laudato Si', Pope Francis' bold encyclical on Care for our Common Home. Ncumisa Magadla described the vibrant activities of the Green Anglicans – the Anglican Church of Southern Africa's Environmental Network. These included a Carbon Fast for Lent and the expectation that confirmation candidates successfully nurture a seed during their 18 month preparation process. Throughout the day participants discussed what they had heard and shared what was happening in their various parts of the church.

In the afternoon the forum addressed what the Anglican Church in Australia should do in response to the challenge of climate change. There was a consensus that it was a key priority for the church in our time.

Suggested responses included creative liturgy, planting gardens, solar panels, theological teaching, partnerships between churches, divestment from fossil fuels, a clear connection between climate change and poverty in development work, prophetic advocacy and developing a new language to describe the vital place of the fifth Mark of Mission, 'protect, care for and renew life on our planet', into the broader theological story.

Bishop Stephen Pickard concluded the day, speaking about the Bonds of Affection which enable Anglicans to engage with Climate justice globally.

Rev'd Andy Bowerman, the Co-Director of the Anglican Alliance, flew in from England to facilitate the Forum. He is taking the results of the forum to the upcoming meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in Zambia.

ABM Education Officer, Celia Kemp, said "praying, listening and talking to people from vastly different circumstances who share a deep love for God's creation and are acting to care for it brought hope into an area where there is often nothing but a sense of futility and despair."

More information on the Climate Change Forum, including presentaions, and the Anglican Gathering in general, can be found at www.abmission.org/AngLife.

A Conference Reflection by David Hewitson-Kerr

There is a deep desire for change in the Anglican Church. It comes at a substantial price, but not necessarily in a monetary sense. A more fitting term might be the 'cost of discipleship', wherein we surrender the part of ourselves that is causing us hindrance on our path to follow Jesus Christ. Insofar as the Church is concerned, we must learn to stop burdening ourselves with additions to our lives, and consider the benefits of letting things go, and using what we have in new ways, in order to gain new perspectives of God's work in the world.

This conference, focused on the theme of 'Life in Abundance', has been a gateway to discovering these new perspectives. When we are further apart, we take on our respective burdens, in the vain hope of seeking clarity in our lives. Where this conference succeeded was bringing people together to share stories, gifts and insights, in order to give a more wholesome picture of what changes need to take place, as well as the potential leaders who will assist in bringing them about.

Discipleship means learning and inviting to drop all that poisons our lives, and recognising where the light of God breaks through. We can only achieve this through connecting with the Other; the one who is different, the one who is overlooked by society. We are united by our differences, but only if we, as a church, can learn to let go and let God in. This conference offered a very encouraging picture of discipleship for the future.



DREAMING OF A 'MISSIONARY OPTION' By Greg Henderson, ABM's Education Missioner



"I dream of a missionary option for the Church," says Pope Francis, "that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." [Emphasis added]

These words are most certainly a challenge to the Anglican Church of Australia. What might each of these marks say to us at this time and place in history? Has the church really let go of its insecurities and fears in

What would it look like if we took Pope Francis's vision for a Missionary Church seriously? This is the question Rev Professor Stephen Bevans put to delegates at the Life in Abundance conference held at Trinity College in February.

In the public lecture Professor Bevans unpacked six marks of a Missionary Church from Pope Francis's 2013 apostolic exhortation Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel):

1. The church would become a community of 'missionary disciples'.

2. The church would become a manifestation of God's mercy and tenderness.

3. The church would become a 'poor church for the poor'.

4. The church would become 'declericalised' and embrace the centrality of Baptism.

5. The church would become a listening church/a church of dialogue.

6. The church would commit itself to contextualisation.

order to hear what God might be saying and respond to God's call? Perhaps the key question is, are we really willing to let God reign? These are all very important questions for us to consider.

You can view Professor Bevans' full public lecture on ABM's YouTube channel.

A D ANGLICANS IN DEVELOPMENT A SUPPLEMENT OF PARTNERS - THE MAGAZINE OF THE ANGLICAN BOARD OF MISSION - AUSTRALIA LTD



IN SEPTEMBER 2015, WORLD LEADERS COMMITTED TO 17 GLOBAL GOALS TO ACHIEVE 3 EXTRAORDINARY THINGS IN THE NEXT 15 YEARS. END EXTREME POVERTY. FIGHT INEQUALITY AND INJUSTICE. FIX CLIMATE CHANGE. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.GLOBALGOALS.ORG

In this AID supplement we hear how ABM's Partners in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu are working towards the Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

In 2015, nations around the world came together through the United Nations to agree on 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development. One of those goals was to, "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all." Another goal was to, "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all." These stories from our partners in PNG and Vanuatu show that achieving such goals requires great commitment.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

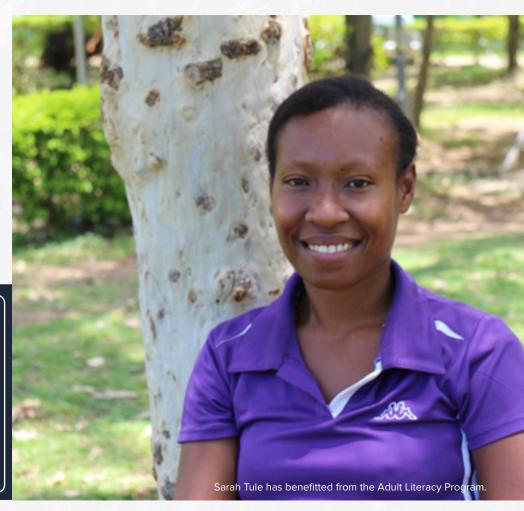
What would learning to read and write for the first time as an adult mean for you? A new job? Greater self confidence? ABM first met Sarah in 2011, the year she graduated from Anglicare PNG's Adult Literacy Program. Sarah was featured in ABM's short documentary on Anglicare's adult literacy school in Port Moresby (you can watch the video at www.youtube.com/ AnglicanBoardMission).

Sarah lives in Port Moresby, in one of its many informal settlement areas, and is just one of the people who have benefited from ABM's support of Anglicare PNG's Adult Literacy Program since it first began in the early 2000's. Since 2012, Anglicare has received funding for its Adult Literacy Program from ABM through the PNG Church Partnership Program (CPP) which is supported by the Australian Aid Program.

Sarah's experience at Anglicare inspired her to complete her formal education and she enrolled in the PNG Government run Flexible, Open and Distance Education (FODE) program. In 2015 she completed her Year 11 Studies through FODE and has now just started her Year 12 Studies. She is working part time at Anglicare PNG to pay for her school fees. She feels very good about working and studying at the same time and she is pleased that her story is an encouragement to other students. ABM is pleased that, with our support, Anglicare's Adult Literacy Program has now expanded into all Dioceses of the Anglican Church of PNG (ACPNG) and currently has around 2000 students enrolled, more than half of them are women. The New Guinea Islands (NGI) Diocese launched its Adult Literacy Program in November 2015 with eight schools ready to open in early 2016.

A key feature of the Anglicare Adult Literacy Program is its partnership with local parishes and communities. Most schools operate out of the local parish until classrooms can be built using local materials and labour. Anglicare trains local volunteers in teaching methods and content, provides teaching resources and materials and gives a small allowance to teachers who complete their classes and reporting requirements. Schools have their own governance committees and are encouraged to do their own fundraising to cover other costs and to work towards independence.

With ABM's support, Anglicare's Adult Literacy Program has now expanded into all Dioceses of the Anglican Church of PNG (ACPNG) and currently has around 2000 students enrolled.





VANUATU -

Barry is not a school bus driver. He's a school boat driver!

He normally transports children to and from Arep Junior Secondary school in Torba, Vanuatu. Recently he also transported a team from the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM) that was, with funding from ABM (and the Australian Aid program), installing Water supplies and raising awareness about Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH). From July 2014 – June 2015, the WASH program installed 5 water supply systems (in five communities), installed four modified ventilated improved pit (VIP) toilets in a college and ran awarenessraising trainings for 3,026 people. It has also shared information and skills with relevant government agencies. Since July 2015, it has organised and trained eight community-based WASH committees, in readiness to build or repair eight water supply systems and 28 VIP toilets.

Barry had never thought about the importance of Sanitation and Hygiene Awareness until he began accompanying the ACOM-Vanuatu WASH team. Now he says he has learned a lot and changed his own sanitation and hygiene behaviours.

Barry has also come to appreciate the commitment of ACOM's staff. On many occasions they must navigate through rough seas to reach remote villages. On one occasion, when Barry had to pick up ACOM's WASH team from Ureparapara community, the waves were particularly high. The entire WASH project team – two females and four males - was drenched even before they could climb into the boat. They continued to get drenched by the high waves during the six-hour boat trip back to Sola. Barry praised the ACOM WASH team for their commitment to remote communities.



REFLECTING ON RECONCILIATION

ABM's Reconciliation Coordinator, Malcolm MacCallum is moving on to another challenge. He writes his last reflection for Partners and encourages us to continue to support reconciliation matters.

It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to grow in understanding about the issues we have as a country due to the colonisation and subsequent land dispossession and general destruction of most of what the First Peoples of Australia enjoyed prior to the invasion.

The Anglican Board of Mission and Church have been involved since the outset. Some good things emerged because of that involvement. Too much though was either passively ignored or worse still agreed to that cannot be left unaddressed by those who currently make up these organisations. As Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders emerge - people like Stan Grant, Noel Pearson and Rosemary Kunoth Monks - the Anglican Church and its agencies will do well to listen very carefully and choose wisely and prayerfully as opportunities arise to partner, support and speak for the highlighted national issues.

I applaud the developments of **Beconciliation Action Plans across** increasing numbers of dioceses and parishes. I applaud the ongoing work of the Indigenous theological colleges at Nungalinya and Wontulp Bi Buya. I applaud the emergence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders in the Anglican Church and the ongoing work of Bible translation into Indigenous languages. I applaud increasing levels of awareness and support for Reconciliation matters. But more, much more needs to be done. Intergenerational trauma is definitely a fact in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities and the Anglican Church along with its agencies would do well to look further into the ongoing impact of this trauma. Finding ways to assist to

address this trauma would be a concrete partnership locally, across dioceses and nationally.

Please take time to find out who the First People descendants are in your parish and diocese and get alongside them to hear how they are doing. Take the time to communicate this to the people you have influence with and pray and support the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people you meet.



REBUILDING NEPAL

ABM's donors responded generously in 2015 when an Emergency Appeal was launched following devastating earthquakes in Nepal. In January 2016, ABM Programs Director, Julianne Stewart, participated in a Joint Monitoring Visit to monitor the work of all the ACT Alliance partners responding to the Nepal earthquake. These are some highlights of her report.

Photos © ABM, Julianne Stewart 2016.



In the afternoon of ANZAC Day last year, news began to reach Australia that a level 7.3 earthquake had hit the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal, with potentially horrendous loss of life. A little over two weeks later, another earthquake was reported, less than 100km to the east of the capital.

The total loss of life from both earthquakes was more than 8,600 people and numerous people were made homeless.

Australians, including ABM's supporters, were keen to help, and \$180,000 was received for ABM's appeal.

ABM does not normally work in Nepal. But we are a part of an international Christian ecumenical organisation called ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance. Several ACT partners had been working in Nepal for many years and had the ability to quickly mobilize local people and materials to provide immediate assistance where it was most needed.

One of these was Lutheran World Federation (LWF), whom ABM chose to support with our funding. LWF aimed to reach 15,000 households comprising 82,500 people in the six affected districts, with emergency food and transitional



shelter, basic cooking and household equipment, hygiene kits, and, as the immediate needs were met, repairing water points, training communities and schools in psycho-social support for trauma and supporting the most vulnerable people to re-establish their livelihoods, as well as training and cash grants for the most vulnerable groups in communities for rebuilding their houses.

We heard from many communities during the visit. This one in Sindhupalchowk, near the epicenter of the second earthquake, had lost their Village Development Office, and were operating from a tent.







Women members of a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene community management group in Dolakha District. Water sources were often lost in the earthquakes and new ones had to be found and tanks and taps put in place.

These school children received musical instruments and games to help them recover from the trauma of the earthquakes. They also got new access to clean drinking water.

This Indigenous community received trauma support and the most vulnerable were given assistance to re-establish their livelihoods (farm animals, restocking a shop, vegetable seeds), as well as temporary shelter.



This mother and baby are benefitting from the assistance of Lutheran World Federation and local partner, HURADEC, in building the infrastructure to obtain clean drinking water in their village.



This school had its toilet block rebuilt, and, in the spirit of "building back better", had a clean water filter installed and basins that were low enough for smaller children to reach.



These people are managing the distribution of winterisation kits (contents vary, but often include blankets, a polystyrene floor mat, a small efficient wood-burning stove).



Polystyrene mats await collection as part of "winterisation" packages for the most vulnerable people who lost their homes.



Village Development Council meet with members of the ACT Alliance Joint Monitoring group in Baramchi Village.



Woman using an almost complete drinking water point. The tap was to be installed shortly after this photo was taken. After the earthquake many villages found their water sources, such as mountain springs, had been destroyed, and new ones had to be found and piped to the community.



A model temporary house, made from wood frames and mud cladding.



Health and Hygiene training is normally included in any water project.



The response focussed on the most vulnerable people, which include ethnic minorities, Dalits, Indigenous people, the elderly and people with a disability.

Lalbahadur, a Dalit man, who is disabled due to a stroke, received support from LWF to purchase a buffalo after the earthquake. Now he reports that he makes 5,000 rupees a month from selling buffalo milk. Nepali earthquake victims still face serious challenges. There have been delays in government producing guidelines on the construction of permanent housing, and many people have not received any assistance at all. However, all the people who we met expressed their appreciation of the ACT Alliance response, and a strong hope that they would soon be able to get their lives back to normal.

Thank you for supporting ABM's Emergency Appeal.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIP



At the core of much of ABM's work is a successful partnership. Partnership acknowledges the strengths of both sides in the relationship. It strives for mutuality, equality, accountability and respect. Partnership in Mission has been a central feature of ABM's work for more than 50 years.

ABM's partnerships and projects are built upon solid foundations of coordination and cooperation.

In Australia we work closely with churches, government and other NGOs to build best practice approaches to addressing poverty. Overseas, our partners empower their local communities to meet and work together so that the work of development is shared and successes are owned by the whole community.

In late 2015, a new publication from the ABM Partnerships Unit, Suggested Guidelines for Successful Church Partnerships was officially launched.

The guidelines are a useful resource, designed to help dioceses, parishes and schools think through the issues surrounding partnerships and avoid some of the pitfalls – like rushing in to fund projects when a relationship hasn't been firmly established. It also highlights the benefits of working through a mission organisation such as ABM. You can view the guidelines or download a copy at www.abmission.org.

NEWS...FROM NEAR AND FAR

This news is available on ABM's website. Visit www.abmission.org to stay up to date or sign up to our e-newsletter, On A Mission.

Australian Primate Elected to Key Communion Role

Primate of the Anglican Church of Australia and Melbourne Archbishop Philip Freier has been elected to the worldwide Communion's Primates' Standing Committee.

The committee is part of the global Anglican Church's top consultative group, the Anglican Consultative Council.

He was one of five Primates voted on to the committee, by regions, at a meeting of the world's 38 Anglican Primates at Canterbury, England.

Dr Freier represents the Asia Pacific region of the global church, which claims 85 million members in 165 countries.

Amity Foundation 30th Anniversary

ABM's partner in China, the Amity Foundation celebrated its 30th anniversary in late 2015 and ABM Executive Director, the Revd John Deane attended the celebrations and visited some project sites.

Amity is not only involved in development, social welfare programs and emergency relief work but is also responsible for the printing of bibles.

Amity's work has grown significantly over the years and as part of the 30th Anniversary celebrations they announced that they have already opened an office in Ethiopia, and will be opening another one in Geneva in the very near future.

Did you know?

In the last five years \$38,500 had been raised for ABM as a direct result of stamps!

For many years ABM has been accepting used postage stamps as part of our fund raising. Today this practice continues with our loyal supporters from the different dioceses around Australia sending us stamps on a regular basis. This represents millions of stamps and many hours of effort from a large number of Friends of ABM, who collect, cut, sort and sell. We also sometimes receive whole collections from stamp collectors and some of these collections prove to be very valuable when sold – a generous gift to ABM! The stamps are trimmed (leaving about 1cm of envelope on each side) and sold to stamp dealers to be used in 'mission mixture packs'. ABM would like to say a big thank you to all our collectors and helpers for this tremendous effort and to encourage you all to keep collecting used stamps as the money raised goes towards our work in mission.



Andy Serafin with regular customer Geraldine at St Luke's Op shop. © Moya Holle 2015.

Tale of Two Cities

St Luke's Anglican Parish at Enmore in Sydney's inner west has been a longtime supporter of ABM. In particular the parish has fundraised for the work of the AI Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, owned and run by the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The hospital, in spite of sometimes being on the receiving end of conflict, nonetheless maintains emergency services to the wounded and dying, and works to deal with war trauma experienced by both adults and children.

For the past 20 years, as part of their local church-community outreach, St Luke's has operated an Op Shop on busy Enmore Road. The Op Shop is run entirely by volunteers from the parish and the local community, with profits going to St Luke's Parish Mission and a percentage to ABM St Luke's Andy Serafin has had positive feedback from customers and the op shop supporters. He said, "People really like the fact that although the Ahli is a Christian hospital, it does not discriminate as to whom they treat. They also have confidence that, through ABM, the money goes directly to the people who run the hospital, and won't be diverted to other groups."

Over the past three years, the Parish of Enmore has raised almost \$25,000 for the hospital, among other very generous donations for ABM's projects. This is a fantastic effort.

ABM is proud to have provided a means for Enmore to link their local level mission with the church's mission on a global level. And the small children who are identified for nutritional testing and food supplement interventions by the staff at the Ahli Arab hospital in Gaza are benefiting from this missional work in the heart of Enmore.

I would like to help ABM support the following project:

□ Youth Engagement Program

Gifts to ABM will be applied to the support of project(s) selected. In the unlikely event of the project being oversubscribed or not proceeding to completion, donations will be applied to a similar project to the one(s) selected.

Go online to donate at www.abmission.org/appeals					
OR please accept my donation of:					
□ \$20	\$50		\$100		
□ \$500	□ \$1,000		\$2,500		
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Please tick this box if you wish to receive our monthly online newsletter via email.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM – AUSTRALIA

Youth suicide and self-harm rates across remote communities in Northern Australia are continuing at an alarming rate and we need your support.

Youth engagement will be a strong focus for the ABM Reconciliation Program in 2016 as it is clear that more needs to be offered for youth to find identity and purpose.

ABM's Reconciliation Coordinator said, "The statistics say the youth suicide rate is the highest in the world – that's in our own country and that's a frightening thing. It's something we are oblivious to in many respects, in our own sheltered communities and in our Christian communities too."

With these frightening statistics clearly emerging, your support is vital to ensure young people are engaged in their community and supported in their needs.



Lincoln (center), a young local in Bamaga, North Queensland engaging with elders Monica and Maria. © Michael Begaud/ABM 2014.

ABMAnglican Board of Mission - Australia Working for Love, Hope & Justice

The Five Marks of Mission

- Witness to Christ's saving, forgiving and reconciling love for all people
- Build welcoming, transforming communities of faith
- Stand in solidarity with the poor and needy
- Challenge violence, injustice and oppression, and work for peace and reconciliation
- Protect, care for and renew life on our planet

Adapted from the Anglican Consultative Council

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