



**AFRICA
INLAND MISSION**
Christ-Centred Churches
Among all African Peoples

AFRICA
news
Oct 22-Mar 23
www.aimint.org/ap



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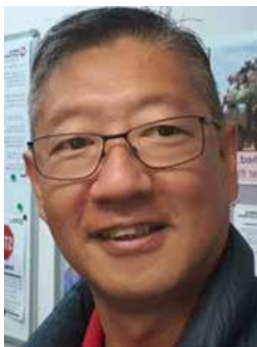
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Just Briefly News from Africa and the Asia Pacific

New Mobiliser to Asian Churches

Rev Ka Fai Alfred Yau (pictured) is appointed to be AIM's Mobiliser to Asian and Multicultural churches in Australia.



This role will help Asian churches be blessed by expanding their mission vision to the unreached peoples of Africa. Pray for Rev Yau raising a prayer and financial support team before commencing the role. Support Rev Yau at this QR Code.



AIM Leader Remembered

Former AIM International Director Dr Dick Anderson died on Friday 8 July in Scotland. Dick followed Australian Norman Thomas in this leadership role and helped expand the outreach of AIM to more African countries.

AIM Dinner 15 October

AIM will celebrate God's faithfulness and hear AIM International Director Luke Herrin at a dinner on 15 October, at Wyoming Church of Christ, Gosford, 6 pm. Cost is \$30 or free for financial members of Africa Inland Mission Ltd. Join at www.aimint.org/ap A love offering will be received. RSVP or pay on 02 4322 4777 by 1 October.

New AIM Finance Officer

Robbyn Lesleighter (left) shows incoming Finance Officer Ann

McLellan the ropes in the Australian office. Ann commenced in the new role in July, with Robbyn planning to retire by October after 16 years of service. Ann is an experienced and qualified bookkeeper from the Central Coast of NSW.



Set for Kenya in 2023

Phil and Lauren Castelijn continue preparation for overseas missions whilst in Newcastle, Australia.

"We pray that Phil will pass the Technical Evaluation in the US to join AIM Air in January 2023.

"If he passes in January, we will head to the US for pre-field orientation for the AIM Air team and then off to Kenya from there!" Lauren said.

"To prepare for this, Phil's been doing lots of flying and now has the required 500 hours flying time!

Further preparation includes a trip to the US in September and continued ministry training through the Ministry Training Strategy (MTS) in Newcastle. We completed our AIM home-based orientation in August."

Lauren continues to study with Sydney Missionary and Bible College in preparation for sharing the Gospel with people from different cultures.

"We are also expecting to welcome our first child in November 2022! Please pray for us and our plans. Pray that

we will trust God over his timing and direction during the next 12 months."



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Editor Len Lesleighter
E director.au@aimint.org

Africa Inland Mission Ltd.

PO Box 328
Gosford NSW 2250 Australia
T 02 4322 4777

Africa Inland Mission International, New Zealand

PO Box 13457 Onehunga
Auckland 1643 New Zealand
T 09 281 4595 E admin.nz@aimint.org



Africa Inland Mission International (Hong Kong) Limited

PO Box 62324
Kwun Tong Hong Kong
T (852) 2770 5380
E director.hk@aimint.org



**AFRICA
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Cover: Celebrating a new generation among the Lopit in South Sudan. Story pages 6-8.

New Workers for Africa



Tasmanians for Kenya

Steve and Heidi King look forward to teaching at AIM's international school, Rift Valley Academy (RVA).

"Professionally, we are teachers with over 20 years of experience teaching and conducting orchestras at primary, middle and high schools and the university level."

Heidi taught at the John Calvin School for 20 years and currently works for the Catholic Primary School Music program, teaches Music at Scotch Oakburn College and conducts the College's Concert Bands.

Steve is the Head of Performing Arts at Scotch Oakburn, where he has been for almost 20 years. He teaches Year 6-12 Music, Computer Science and Media Studies and, until recently, conducted the College's two Big Bands and two Concert Bands.

Their call to serve at RVA in Kenya was a surprise.

"A Christian colleague of Steve's whom he worked with in America contacted him and asked, "Are your shoes ready to serve in a new way and to walk new paths?"

"We discovered that RVA needs Christian teachers with skills to teach music, band and computing, and hearts to provide pastoral care and disciple the students."

Steve and Heidi are raising a support team for a mid-2023 departure. To join Steve and Heidi's team, go here: (Please use the QR Code.)

Follow the King's Kenyan Calling at www.utcmp.org.au/kingsinkenya/



New Zealander Teaching

New Zealander Ashley Windsor teaches at the Rift Valley Academy (RVA) in Kijabe, Kenya.

"Following the Africa Based Orientation (ABO) in July, I moved to Kijabe."

The ABO course was helpful, dealing with cultural and security issues, among other things. I valued meeting others committed to serving Christ in AIM and preaching at a local church one Sunday.

"After I arrived at RVA, I had more local orientation training, and I started teaching mathematics at the end of August and will continue in 2023. Although I am teaching maths, my real purpose is to be part of a team that encourages the school's young people in their journey of life and faith."



Family to Kijabe Hospital Hi, we're Joe and Nicky Luo.

We're excited about serving in Kenya and look forward to meeting many in AIM! Joe is doing 12 months short-term at the Africa Inland Church Kijabe Hospital from early 2023.

We're from Perth, Western Australia, where Joe is a Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon and Nicky works in the fashion industry.

In July, we welcomed our first child, our baby boy Lucas. We love spending time with friends and family and eating good food!

We attend the New Life City Church, where Joe is on the Board of Elders and heads up the Missions Committee, while Nicky is part of the Children's Ministry and the Social Media and Communications Team.

Thanks for your prayers.

Short-term in the Horn of Africa

"EM" from Hong Kong recently served for two months in the Horn of Africa. She reports on her experiences.

"Here, talking about faith is commonplace—when learning vocabulary in English, teaching public health, in the gym. Praise God that He opens doors quickly.

"With female students, we made local foods, went out for meals, and I had the opportunity to visit a few local homes. I learned about how Islam influences their upbringing, view of family, work, life and death.

"Some are very religious, and some practice more culturally. I witnessed how deep-rooted cultural and religious beliefs shape who they are. I also noticed the fruits of years of sowing by other workers.

"God has been teaching me what it means to be His co-labourer and letting Him set the pace."



Our New Harvest Mentors

Africa Inland Mission is in partnership with Central Coast organisation Prepare the Way to employ part-time Harvest Mentors in Melbourne and Sydney. Harvest Mentors help people explore their potential role in God's mission. Here we introduce two Harvest Mentors who started in Melbourne and Sydney in August.

Elizabeth Mahanidis in Melbourne

Hi! I'm Elizabeth Mahanidis. Most people call me Liz. I was born in Melbourne to Greek parents and lived and worked in Melbourne all my life.



I recently joined Prepare the Way as a Harvest Mentor, serving the Africa Inland Mission and the European Christian Mission in Melbourne for about two days a week.

I also work three days a week with Dignity Freedom Network in Melbourne, a fundraising arm of Operation Mercy in India, working with people of Dalit (otherwise known as 'untouchables').

I previously served with Operation Mobilisation Australia (OMA) and East Asia Pacific (OM EAP).

I started working with OMA as General Administrator. After ten weeks

on board MV Doulos, I became OMA's Short-Term Coordinator. In 2000, I became Personnel Manager; and also served as Area Personnel Officer for OM EAP in 2010.

My happy place is walking alongside people, building relationships, and helping them discern God's will for their lives. So, when asked if I knew anyone in Melbourne who would be interested in being a Harvest Mentor, naturally, I said, 'yes, me!'! Contact: Liz Mahanidis liz.preparetheway@gmail.com

Amy Tefera in Sydney

Hello. I am Amy Tefera, and am delighted to partner with AIM as a Harvest Mentor through Prepare the Way.



I am excited to grow in understanding what God loves uniquely about AIM and how I can share that with others. I hope and pray that I can help many people grow in their passion for Jesus and, as an outflow of this, help them

find their place in serving Him.

I loved being a missionary in Ethiopia, where I led a predominately Ethiopian team. I recall when a young lady came to us hopeless and struggling with insanity due to all she had suffered. As she lived on base and trained with us, she cried through the weeks of teaching, saying, "I feel safe here". Through the love of Christ, she became healed and strong and is now making disciples of young women who themselves need hope. How precious is the Lord, and how marvellous to follow Him!

I love Jesus, missions and my family, including my Ethiopian husband, our two-year-old daughter Miench and our 10-month-old son Aron. We hope as a family to return to the mission field in years to come as the Lord calls us to go. Contact: Amy, Prepare The Way amy.preparetheway@gmail.com.

Please go here if you want to support AIM in engaging Harvest Mentors. Please use this QR code.



Aitken Family For Madagascar

The Aitken family have been studying French in France since January and are set for Madagascar in December 2022. Jeremy and Felicity are both nurses.

Jeremy said disciple-making through health care is a remarkable opportunity!



The Aitken family, Jeremy and Felicity, with Orlando, Caspian, Raphael, Keanu and Malachi.

The Good News Hospital in Mandritsara, Madagascar, is a part of a much broader project bringing God's lifesaving truth to a very needy remote corner of the world.

The hospital is part of a project running a radio station, primary school, nursing school, pastoral training, community evangelism, health care missions to isolated communities, and a new program for training

missionary surgeons in lifesaving skills.

This surgical training program's need of a new facility was recently met. There is a great need for staff development in specialty nursing in post anaesthetic care.

When the family arrives, Jeremy will offer his experience and heart for discipleship in this fantastic ministry.

But again, they could never do it without your help, so thank you!

Madagascar has 56 times fewer nurses than Australia and thousands of people who have never heard of Jesus.

To support the Aitkens, go to QR Code.



AIM's **Borderless** Ministry

The Africa Inland Missions' ministry to Africans outside of Africa has taken on the new name Borderless.

The priority remains to reach out to unreached African people but can include serving groups of refugees from mixed ethnic and religious backgrounds.

The ministry currently spans several continents and many countries, including the United Kingdom and Europe, North America, South America, and Hong Kong in the Asia-Pacific.

There are workers in more than 12 cities.

In the United Kingdom, there are six people in four locations. Twenty-four people work across European countries, including Finland, France, Spain, and Malta. Thirty people are involved in the ministry in the USA and 12 in Canada. The Canadian Borderless work includes helping refugees through summer camps. In Hong Kong, we have one Borderless worker facilitating the involvement of many volunteers reaching out to local Africans.

The Borderless ministry leader Rick Maples said the team worked in cities with significant African populations but didn't exclude others.

AIM is seeking people interested in outreach for strategic locations. Some work part-time and are on part-time support. Workers assist in teaching

English and providing other essential services for new migrants and refugees.

We are looking for people interested and living in suitable locations in Australia and New Zealand.

To learn more about the opportunities in Borderless, see www.borderlessafrica.org or inquire using the ministry interest form on www.aimint.org/ap/go.

Borderless Ministry in Hong Kong

Around 3,000 Africans live in Hong Kong, including 2,000 asylum seekers, and the others are refugees.

In addition, 18,000 Pakistani and 36,000 Indians live in Hong Kong.

Our AIM worker Eman is working with Church volunteers to build relationships and share the gospel with African Muslims through home visits, Chinese language classes or other means.



A Chinese language class with African immigrants in Hong Kong

“We are building relationships and sharing the gospel with the minority kids in tutorial classes, where we share Christian values through Bible messages. We also train local Christians and engage them in Borderless Ministry.

“We train African Christians, many of whom are Muslim background believers, to share the gospel with Muslims speaking the same native language.

“Our goal is to share the vision and encourage Hong Kong churches to engage in Borderless Ministry,” Eman said.

borderless

global outreach to African immigrants and refugees



BORDERLESS IS A MINISTRY INITIATIVE
OF AFRICA INLAND MISSION

borderlessafrica.org

Life and Death Amongst the Lopit

By Jenny Davies MAF Media

Marlene van Tonder's house in Ohilang village, South Sudan, you look over rooftops to the plateau that stretches for miles. The views are beautiful. She calls it her mountain mansion.

The nearest mission neighbours are a ten-minute flight away in Lokutok. Others serve on the other side of the mountain in the communities around Torit. The hills in the distance are home to an African Inland Mission (AIM) team working amongst the Laarim people.

With a laugh, Marlene shares about the times people have asked her to drive to Lokutok to catch a flight. Although just a short 12km distance on the map, it takes a minimum of an hour in a 4X4. In the wet season, you're more likely to get stuck in the mud than you are to arrive. Near and far are relative terms when you must pay the cost of an international flight in car repairs.

Last year, Marlene's teammate Andrea was held up at gunpoint on her motorbike on this road. She escaped, shaken but unharmed, after being robbed of her belongings. Incidents such as this aren't a laughing matter.

Marlene's Mountain

The solid concrete structure of Marlene's house was built with cement and flown in, in 2020 by MAF. Helpers unloaded the bags as rumours of a new disease brought in by white people were reaching the community. Two years later, the fears have faded, and the completed house sits proudly in its surroundings. Distinctive, but not out of place, amongst the village houses.

In the valley below is the airstrip, extended in 2019 to allow MAF planes to land. After eight years of ministry in Iboni and Ohilang, Marlene knows which MAF pilot is landing by their approach, route through the mountains and how closely they hug the airstrip as they conduct a low pass. The planes are

a welcome sight, bringing visitors and colleagues fresh fruit, vegetables, and sometimes a cold, refreshing coke.

After two months in her native New Zealand, Marlene is welcomed from the MAF plane by Luka and Umjuma, close friends who are the other half of the close-knit team working amongst the Lopit. The couple is among the first South Sudanese missionaries sent by the AIC church in Torit. It is an exciting new initiative to speed the gospel's spread in a culturally relevant way. They've been in the community for almost a year.

A Place To Call Home

At Luka and Umjuma's home, a pair of wagging tails and two pairs of gorgeous brown eyes met Marlene. Her dogs, Angel and Waji, led the way on the climb 'up the hill' to her house an hour later. Her luggage, carried up on the heads of local ladies, is waiting for her on the veranda when she arrives.

Inside the house, Marlene first checks there aren't any snakes hiding in dark corners, then reconnects the solar panels and checks the water in the tanks. The nearest water pump is at the bottom of the mountain, so she's happy to see the water flow out when she turns on the taps. She sweeps a layer of dust and animal droppings from the kitchen surfaces and packs away her fresh food. In the middle of the night, she discovers a family of mice nesting in her pantry cupboard, enjoying a midnight feast.

The following day her guests arrive on her veranda at 6 am. Time is told here, not by the hands of a clock but by the sun's position on the mountain. When the time zone changed a year ago, it created a time zone people call 'Juba time.' Time is relative too.

News With Neighbours

Marlene catches news from neighbours and finds out what's been happening while she's gone. The big news is the traditional Hifira ceremony

and the visitors it has brought from Juba and further afield.

As Marlene digests little bits of news — she learns that an elderly neighbour has died alone in her traditional thatched home, less than a hundred meters away. She hurries to the compound where close relatives have a vigil by the grave. Her tears melt into the conversation, hearing that the neighbour died of hunger. Everyone asks why she has come to the funeral so late. In her fluent Lopit, she explains her travels to her far away homeland.

Passing from the funeral into one of the small alleyways that separate the compounds, there are neighbours to greet around every corner. She brushes the tears away to congratulate a neighbour who has recently delivered a baby girl. There are new arrivals to greet and old friends to grieve whenever she returns to life and death amongst the Lopit.

A New Generation

Somewhere in the hills overlooking Ibonni village, the Hifira ceremony is in progress. The ceremony happens only every 22 years and is closed to outsiders and women. It involves naming the new ruling generation by King Alifa Omoro and lighting the new generation's fire, carried to each of the six Lopit villages that make up the Omiaha kingdom.

Everyone not involved in the ceremony prepares for the celebrations later. From the top of the hill in Ohilang, ceremonial ostrich feather headdresses are seen fluttering in the breeze. In a compound further down the mountain, women are busy preparing the carcass of a slaughtered cow for a feast. Usually, cows are kept almost exclusively for dowry, which speaks to the importance of the occasion.

When the ceremony finishes, the young men race from the ceremony to bang the drum in the village meeting place. It's an honour to be the first to share the name of the new generation, the Maa or locust swarm. The celebrations begin in earnest in the afternoon. Young men in colourful costumes proceed to the beat of the drum. A platform with several tiers

forms the central structure of the meeting place, representing the thirteen generations that have passed since the tradition began in 1736. A bundle of sticks of varying heights represents the generations of leaders that have gone before.

Dancing

More and more people join the celebration to watch and dance. Older women have whitened their faces with sorghum flour, a sign of prosperity, and adorned elaborate beaded collars. Younger women wear colourful hair bands and beaded skirts. The only part of the community who are not involved, it seems, are the young boys who sit on the sidelines on a raised hillside overlooking the proceedings. Will they remember this day in 22 years when their time comes to lead?

Parallel celebrations are happening in each of the Omiaha Kingdom's six villages. A kilometre away in the larger village of Ibonni, the dust whipped up by hundreds of feet mixes with the golden evening light in a joyous whirlpool of celebration. The Omiaha flag flies from the tower. It is carried jubilantly over the heads of the dancers together with the flag of South Sudan. Two great symbols of identity and hope.

The celebrations will continue for the next few days as Lopit villagers re-establish connections with out-of-town family members. At least four planeloads have travelled from Juba, with many younger people coming by car. In the snatches of conversation, much Arabic is mixed in with the Lopit - a reminder that identities are changing, blending and evolving as people seek opportunities for education and work elsewhere. The present and future no longer exist just in one place.

The rumble of thunder breaks over the mountains as the sun goes down. Fires burn on the hillside. Drums beat into the night, punctuated by the occasional burst of celebratory gunfire. Thankfully, strong alcohol was banned for the duration of the celebration.



Continued on page 8.

The Lopit people of South Sudan celebrate a new generation with dancing.

Continued from page 7.

Sunday Worship

The following day is Sunday, and on the edge of Ibonni village, a small group of Christian believers are meeting for Sunday worship under a tree. Luka preaches to a handful of women and youth. The humble gathering is the opposite of yesterday's spectacle.

People take turns reading the Bible passage from Exodus Chapter eight. The Lopit Bible translation only has two books, Genesis and Exodus. It seems strange that they can't read about the life of Jesus, but they can read about the plague of frogs.

The New Testament is about to be circulated for feedback, a time-consuming process given that the translation consolidates six different dialects and many more opinions. It is hard to find the words when the worldviews are so different.

More than the word preached or read from the Bible, it is Marlene, Luka and Umjuma's physical presence in the village that gives a face to the gospel. Like the early church of Acts gathering in people's homes, the Kingdom God is building here is very different from the Hifira celebrated nearby.

Church in the community

After church, the missionaries discuss changes on the horizon over a cup of tea. Marlene is heading out for a season to work with the team in Torit but plans to come at least once a month to continue supporting the church.

They discuss the new secondary school near Murra Lopit, a village further north. As a teacher, Marlene helped train some teachers before the school opened its door in 2021. The school will mean young people won't have to go away to Torit to continue their education. The challenge will be finding qualified and motivated teachers willing to stay.

Knowing when and how to invest the church's limited time and resources takes a lot of discernment for the team. Ministry must come first, but where the church has a strong presence, it can be a conduit for development in areas beyond

the reach of the NGOs. Missionaries are often well placed to meet urgent needs, like an event in 2017 when a fire burned the hillside in Ohilang, destroying homes and grain stores. Marlene and her colleagues arranged the AIM Air aeroplanes that brought emergency food.



Luka (deceased) and his wife Umjuma. The couple were parents to Luka's brother's children, and their own two children when Luka died in January 2022.

Leaving and losing

The planes depart early the following day to bring the Omiaha Elders and other visitors back to Juba. It is a day of departures. Luka is leaving by road for a short visit to Torit. Umjuma will go for medical treatment on a MAF plane for Juba in a few days. Marlene is preparing to leave Ohilang for Torit to lead a team of new prospective missionaries that will hopefully bolster her team when she returns.

She is still in Ohilang a few days later when she learns that Pastor Luka has died, suddenly in Torit from an unidentified illness leaving the community without a pastor and Umjuma and their two children and three adopted children, without a husband and father.

Bishop Charles Nyiko speaks to people's unanswered questions at Luka's funeral when he says Luka finished his days. He is in the hands of a gracious and loving Heavenly Father. The best way to honour Luka now is to continue the ministry he left behind.

The team is left reeling by the heart-breaking loss of a beloved colleague, one of the first local missionaries sent by the Torit church. Two other young evangelists have died recently from illnesses. Last year an influential and mission-focused Africa Inland Church

(AIC) pastor was called out of his house at night and shot dead in an unprovoked attack. Each person has left a gap in their ministry and their lives.

The AIM team counts the cost as their work in Eastern Equatoria continues against spiritual opposition and the cyclical self-perpetuating trauma of war. Spiritual darkness is as real here as the gospel is light. The battle that is the prelude to every great victory continues to rage.

New ministry horizons

After eight years of ministry in Ibonni and Ohilang, Marlene is part of the community. Leaving for a short time does not change that or weaken the foundations she has built. As she takes this time to regroup and strategize in Torit, the compound will remain open for visitors. She will travel in and out at least once a month and trust that God will lead the way.

In Ohilang, no walls are defending her heart or her ministry, only the prayers of supporters and teammates and the small planes from MAF that arrive on the horizon occasionally bringing the things she needs in this hiatus and every other phase of her ministry.

Marlene is heartbroken but hopeful as she shares that her desire for her ministry and the people of Ohilang and Ibonni is to see a living, vibrant, Christ-centred church and everything that flows from that. She longs to see lives transformed and free from addictions, trauma, bitterness, grudges and abuse. She has seen how when someone comes to know the Lord, their quality of life improves. They look at the resources God has given them differently. She looks forward to the day when the outlook from her home in this beautiful and resource-rich area will change because of the decent, talented, and resilient people who know Jesus and live in the abundance He provides.

Front (left to right): Marlene and Andrea. Back: John Mosby (AIM Air Mechanic); Luka (Lopit missionary now deceased); an AIM Air mechanic and Robert Betts (Kenyan missionary)



AIM Launches New TIMO Teams

In 2023 two new TIMO teams will offer an extraordinary opportunity to train and practise cross-cultural ministry. The Africa Inland Mission Training in Ministry Outreach or TIMO teams have trained cross-cultural workers for more than 40 years. Two contrasting locations in Chad and the Indian Ocean Islands provide a chance to serve Muslim people. The teams offer excellent training to Live Simply, Learn Outreach, Do outreach, and Minister as a Team. For an overview of more available team opportunities with the Africa Inland Mission, see Africa Inland Mission Outreach Teams.



The Oum Hadjer TIMO Team in Chad.

The vision for this Chad team is a reproducing, indigenous, Christ-centered church among the mixed Muslim unreached people groups of Oum Hadjer.

Situated on a major road connecting east and west Chad, Oum Hadjer is strategically placed and continually growing in size. The city is home to people of many ethnic groups, with a majority of Chadian Arabs.

Though an eleven-hour drive from the western capital of N'Djamena, the entire road is bitumen and easily accessible both for our workers and local people.

Experienced Team Leaders Chris and Beka said they plan the Oum Hadjer TIMO Team to be a multi-cultural team comprised of team members from different regions and countries — African, Asian, South American, European, North American, and people from the Asia Pacific, including Australia, Hong Kong and New Zealand.

Starting in September 2023, this team is limited to a maximum of four members from any Mobilising Region with a desire for 12 team members.

“We hope to see team ministry continue in Oum Hadjer after the TIMO team finishes in November 2025, whether with TIMO Team members continuing in Oum Hadjer or new team members.

“This team is not simply a two-year mission experience but training for a lifetime of ministry.”

“The TIMO team members will commit to being learners and practitioners for an initial two-year period with the plan and intention of being long-term cross-cultural workers, whether in Chad or elsewhere.

“Creating cultural centres has proved an effective way to connect with communities.

“Through teaching English and French languages, computer courses, sports, and making available a small library, we have found wide open doors for building relationships and earning respect in the community.” Chris and Beka said.

The Oum Hadjer TIMO Team will explore what platform best fits their skills and context and give them access to local relationships to share the gospel.

Throughout the centre and north of Chad, where most unreached people groups live, there are small local churches with Christians from southern Chad. These Christians are often found in such places because they are government workers, including



teachers, nurses, and doctors, and have been posted to these locations by the government.

“Just as we strive to faithfully proclaim the gospel to the unreached Muslim people groups of Oum Hadjer and beyond, we want to see the local church take up the commission that the Lord has given them to be light and salt in their community.”

One expectation of this value is that team members will dress in a way that communicates respect and modesty in the local culture. Female team members will wear head coverings (called a “tarha”) when in the home and a full body covering (called a “lafay”) when out in public. Men will always be encouraged to wear long trousers and collared shirts when out in public or “jalabyas”, the traditional full-length robe worn by most local men.

“Dressing in such a manner is one way we show our respect and value to the local culture and protect honour (particularly in the case of women).” Chris and Beka said.

“Because we believe strongly in acquiring the local language to effectively communicate the gospel message to those we live amongst, TIMO team members will be required to commit 20 hours a week to language learning and time out in the community.”

Any TIMO Team members who look to continue in full-term ministry in Chad following the completion of the TIMO Team will be required to do French study before their return.

Projects Bring Blessings

Thank you to our supporters who donated more than \$90,000 to AIM-sponsored projects in 2021-22.

Whether your interests lie in helping people in crises, making disciples of Christ, or training high-calibre leaders for Africa, these projects open the door for prudent investment. We also provide options for tax-deductible projects through our partner Global Development Group (GDG).

In 2021-22, donors from Australia gave more than \$4,000 to disaster relief through AIM projects like IO-130 International Famine and Crisis Relief and the tax-deductible GDG J1076N African Crises Relief. The crises addressed included severe drought in Kenya and famine in Madagascar.

Australian donors gave more than \$80,000 for the GDG tax-deductible Equipping Leaders: Kenya project and other AIM projects supporting training and Bible Colleges. Other projects supported included the Safina Network's Street Children's ministry in Tanzania and the support of indigenous missionaries in Madagascar.

Thank you for being so supportive. More information about our projects is available at www.aimint.org/give or from our office on 02 4322 4777.

Castle Hill Church Assists African Missionaries

Castle Hill Baptist Church is committed to supporting AIM's African Missionary Assistance Project IO-137 through funds raised from their coffee machine.

Despite the lockdowns and setbacks from the Covid pandemic in 2020-2022, the Church raised \$2,000 for this project. The Church is central to Sydney's Hills District.

This project funding supports African national missionaries to pay for training and education, attend conferences and travel to their ministry location, or buy vital equipment essential for outreach. Relatively small grants facilitate outreach and disciple-making among the unreached peoples of Africa.

Castle Hill Baptist has used the funds raised from its coffee machine to support various global mission projects. Thank you, Castle Hill Baptist.

New Project to Support African Missionaries

Africa Inland Mission's African Missionary Fund ABS-123-R will provide finances for the living cost of African national missionaries.

Initiated by African business people, this project aims to raise investment funds of USD10 million. AIM will use the returns from this investment to support African national missionaries.

AIM's Africa Development Director, Karen Hart, said the fund is open to receive monies from any AIM mobilising region wishing to support it.

"We need to be clear with partners that this fund, ABS-123-R is an investment fund that does not spend on its principal but only on the income generated.

"This is to help us get to a place of sustainability and remove the dependency on requesting funds from

partners for this endeavour yearly. We hope to raise \$10M and use the income to support African Missionaries on the field."

Project Supports Australians Working Among Unreached People

The Australian office project AU-01 UPG Worker Support is helping support Australian workers serving unreached African peoples. The beneficiaries can include people serving in East, Central, Southern and North Africa.

The project commenced in 2020 with a donor's generous investment through AIM of \$61,000. AIM has invested the funds and only uses the returns to provide a welcome supplement to a worker's support, usually quarterly. Workers selected may face a slight dip in their usual support or some hardship.

Asia-Pacific Mobilising Director Len Leslighter said the project is a great way to help workers among UPGs with a pressing need. The usually quarterly gift boosts the support for those facing a need.

"Since the fund's establishment in 2020, we have paid more than \$8,000. We desire to increase the fund to \$100,000 to multiply the capacity for providing support."

If you wish to invest in this project, please give to AU-01 UPG Worker Support. Give \$10 a week and make a difference. You can give by going here: Please use this QR Code.



Castle Hill Baptist raises funds from coffee sales to assist African national missionaries.



Grants assist African missionaries in purchasing essential equipment like this motorbike.

Response Form

Yes, I would like to support AIM's ministry

I want to give monthly

\$50 \$25 \$100 \$

Give a one off gift of \$

Please complete the payment authority below. Please make cheques payable to Africa Inland Mission Ltd or complete details below; or donate online: www.aimint.org/ap/give (PayPal fees apply to online gifts)

Please use my donation

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For Details, Contact:

New Zealand: **T** 09 281 4595, or

Australia: Ann **T** 02 4322 4777

Response slips can be mailed to AIM in:

New Zealand: PO Box 13457 Onehunga 1643

Australia: PO Box 328 Gosford NSW 2250



AIM Air pilot Jim and Ephraim unload emergency food supplies for distribution in drought-stricken north Kenya.





New **TIMU** Team for “Vanilla Island”

The “Vanilla Island” in the Indian Ocean, East Africa, is the site for a new Training in Ministry Outreach or TIMO team starting November 2023.

This two-year team will provide a fantastic opportunity to learn and reach out to your Muslim neighbours.

*Live simply, learn outreach,
do outreach and minister as a
team.*

This team will boost the small “Vanilla Island” crew and their desire to see a church planting movement of reproducing house churches on the island paradise.

The island has a population of about 40,000 and is in a cluster of larger islands.

The team will work with a local non-government organisation (NGO) serving the almost entirely Muslim population. This new team will live in a village.

The people of the island’s villages are mostly subsistence farmers of the sea, who also rely on imports of rice, oil and chicken wings. The population includes fishers, shop owners, school teachers and other government workers.

The NGO works through teaching conversational English, translation and practising in the medical profession. Africans and other expatriates help support the work.

The desire is for trained team members to return to the island or similar work reaching out cross-culturally.

If you believe you could be part of this new team, inquire now on the ministry interest form at www.aimint.org/ap/go.