

# V.O.T.E. for Women Focus



## Every Home

Australia & New Zealand

February 2026

## Editorial

Happy New Year. As we enter a new year, I pray that your faith will be your anchor and that Every Home for Christ projects in 2026 bring you closer to God as we jointly journey ahead. Your prayers are critical as we look at new ways to increase financial support for our humanitarian projects, our evangelical outreach missions and for the staff who work tirelessly to fulfil the Great Commission.



### What Can You Give Up During Lent?

Lent is a significant season in the year for Christians – a time of solemnity and self-reflection where we confess our failings and resolve to live a godlier life based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. It lasts for just over six weeks leading up to Easter. Like Easter, Lent falls on different dates each year. In most churches, the first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday. In some churches, ash is used to mark a cross sign on the forehead of each person. It is a symbol of their remorse.

Lent is an opportunity to walk closely with Jesus and rediscover the joy of loving him through obedience. Lent is a beautiful season to help kids slow down, reflect and prepare their hearts for Easter.



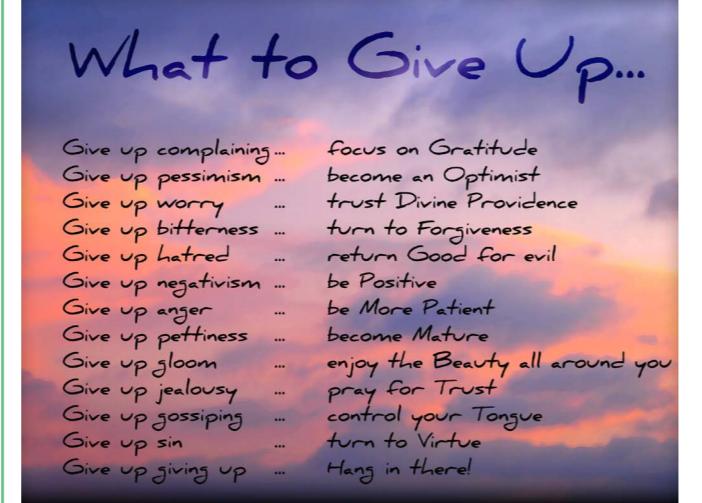
Christians in different church traditions around the world celebrate slightly different periods of Lent. Some church buildings are made to look plainer during Lent with flowers and other decorations removed.

During Lent, Christians engage in special personal prayer and reflection. May I encourage all of us to consider:

- Moving from admiring Jesus to actually following Him,
- Understanding why his commands lead to joy, not burden and
- Experiencing spiritual renewal as you walk toward Easter



**"Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you" — James 4:8**



## VALE: Rev. Heng Cheng

The Board and Staff at Every Home Christ Australia (EHCA) are all deeply saddened by the loss of a dear brother and friend who has served faithfully spreading the Good News in the Asia Pacific region to everyone, everywhere and every generation. Please accept our heartfelt condolences.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to his family, his ministry staff and everyone connected to him in fulfilling the Great Commission.

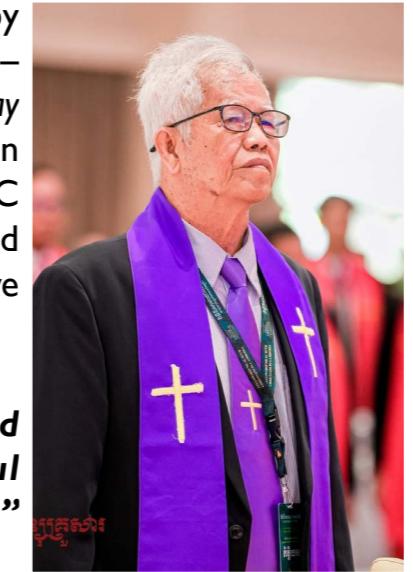
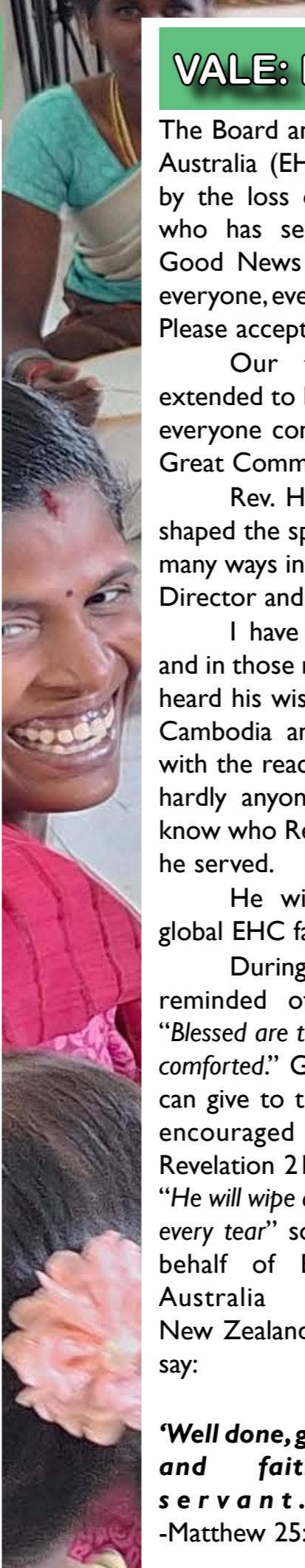
Rev. Heng Cheng's life and ministry shaped the spiritual growth of Cambodia in many ways in his role as both EHC Ministry Director and Regional Leader in Cambodia.

I have met Rev Cheng a few times and in those meetings, I was blessed to have heard his wisdom, vision and faith for both Cambodia and EHC. I was so impressed with the reach of his ministry as there was hardly anyone in Cambodia that did not know who Rev Cheng was and the ministry he served.

He will be deeply missed by the global EHC family and by Cambodia itself.

During this time of mourning, we are reminded of Matthew 5:4 which says, "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Grief is the last act of love we can give to those we loved and we are all encouraged by Revelation 21:4 – "He will wipe away every tear" so on behalf of EHC Australia and New Zealand we say:

**'Well done, good and faithful servant...'**  
-Matthew 25:21



## Word of the Year - CARRY



It is with much excitement that I announce that the Every Home for Christ 2026 international Word of the Year is – CARRY with the tag line See People,

Show Love, Speak Hope.

International EHC offices around the world are living out "Carry" in their communities, bringing Christ's hope to every home and heart.

We all need to reflect on what it means to carry Christ's love, compassion and hope into every area of life.

In a world overflowing with anger, accusation and condemnation, carrying the message of Christ means becoming people whose words reflect His mercy. When we think about the word **Carry**, we need to be thinking about not only what we carry in our hands—but what we carry in our hearts and our lives. This is our calling for the year ahead:



**Carry, His Message.  
Carry, His Heart.  
Carry, His Mission.  
Carry, His Hope.**

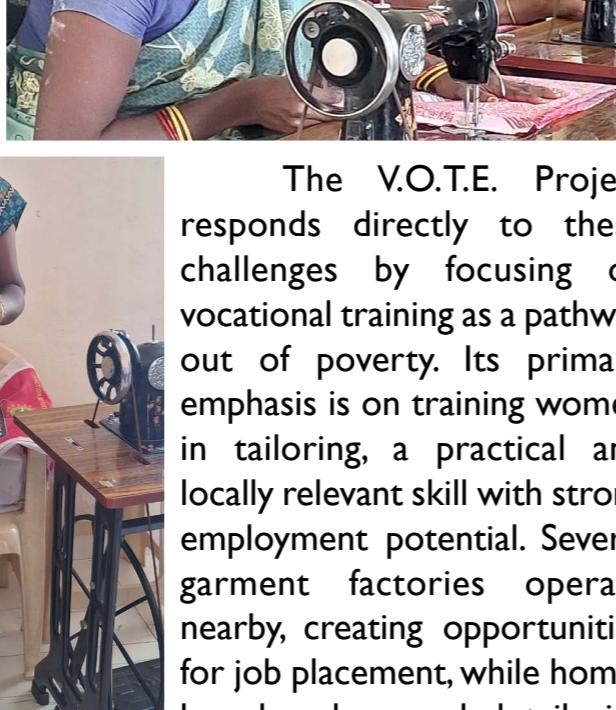
Blessings,  
Greg Bondar  
Ministry Director, EHC Aust & NZ

# Introducing the V.O.T.E. Project: Vocational Training for Rural Women and Employment

In the rural districts of Thoothukudi and Kovilpatti in Tamil Nadu, India, many families face daily challenges shaped by poverty, limited education and restricted access to employment. The **V.O.T.E. Project - Vocational Training for Rural Women and Employment** has been created to help break this cycle by equipping women with practical skills, financial knowledge and community support systems that lead to sustainable livelihoods and stronger communities.

The project will be implemented across five villages within the Kulasegaranallur Panchayat, located approximately 35 kilometres from Thoothukudi. These villages are home to around 3,300 people, including a significant youth population. The communities rely heavily on agriculture and government employment schemes, such as the 100-day job program. However, unpredictable monsoon rains and limited work opportunities mean many households struggle to secure consistent income throughout the year. Most women, in particular, remain confined to their villages with few opportunities to develop employable skills or access wider markets.

A large proportion of the population belongs to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities, including Dalits, who continue to face social and economic disadvantage. According to the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, millions in these communities experience deprivation in education, health and living standards, reinforcing the urgent need for long-term, skills-based solutions.



The V.O.T.E. Project responds directly to these challenges by focusing on vocational training as a pathway out of poverty. Its primary emphasis is on training women in tailoring, a practical and locally relevant skill with strong employment potential. Several garment factories operate nearby, creating opportunities for job placement, while home-based and group-led tailoring services offer options for women who prefer to work within their communities.

Alongside technical training, participants will receive financial literacy and small business education. This includes learning how to save, manage income and develop sustainable micro-enterprises. Exposure visits and training sessions with



experienced business owners and agriculture experts will provide practical insight into successful business models and build confidence to pursue employment or entrepreneurship.

A key feature of the project is the formation and revitalisation of **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** within the villages. These



groups create a foundation for collective saving, low-interest community loans and mutual support. Through SHGs, participants can access small business loans to start or expand ventures such as tailoring services, soap making and nutrition product preparation. This community-led approach ensures that financial resources continue to circulate locally, even after the project period ends.

V.O.T.E. is designed to be sustainable. Women with disabilities are encouraged to participate and training locations will be selected to ensure

accessibility wherever possible. Environmental care is woven into project delivery through hygiene, sanitation and environmental awareness campaigns conducted in partnership with local educational institutions.



The overall goal of the V.O.T.E. Project is to increase income and improve living standards across the Kulasegaranallur Panchayat. By strengthening skills, supporting small businesses and empowering community groups, the project aims to create lasting change that benefits not only individual women but their families and entire villages.

Through Vocational Training for Rural Women and Employment, V.O.T.E. offers more than skills, it provides opportunity, dignity and a pathway toward a more secure and hopeful future. Prayers welcome.

# Zambia Food Security and Outreach Project

## Women Changing Lives

Zambian Food security project identifies women as key agents for achieving economic and social changes in the communities given their large presence in the community and their involvement in agriculture initiatives, businesses, environmental programs and social related programs in the Kazala area. The project's support and empowering of women in these initiatives does not only improve their individual families but also overall productivity in the community they live in.



### Economic Involvement

With technical and financial support from **Every Home Global Concern Australia**, the project has been training women in agriculture production, business management and environmental management to equip them with skills to pursue new technologies and remain resilient to environmental challenges. These women are later empowered with agriculture farming inputs, livestock,



support them to access small village loans from the project village banking clubs initiatives and link them to seed companies who use their field crops as marketing tools to showcase company seed productivity. With this support from the project, 30% of vulnerable women have made significant economic transformation and social improvements in the last 10 years.



Sara rears broiler chickens every 5 months cycle for business, while Veronica runs a vegetable garden which earns her and her family K300 per month. Iness and Peggy now cultivate about 3 ha of grain each and every year for home consumption and to sell. These women do not only earn income and provide food for themselves and families but they also supply fresh food products for sale within reach in their respective communities. They have also created employment opportunities in their



local community for people who do part time work in their businesses and crop field. With continued support from the project and Every Home Global Concern, it is expected that the number of women achieving positive economic transformation and social changes will continue to increase progressively toward sustainability.



### Water & Sanitation Involvement

The involvement and inclusion of women by the project and community in planning, design and management of newly rehabilitated water points in villages has proved that services of these water points are well maintained and meet specific needs of the community. Nine out of ten households in villages rely on women and girls to fetch water for home use. Their contribution in planning, design and management of newly rehabilitated water points has made a huge difference in maintaining service delivery.



### Leadership Involvement

The Zambia project has been advocating for gender balance in appointments of leaders to occupy decision making positions in the community. 55% of influential leadership positions in the food security and outreach program village committees are held by women who have fully participated in shaping laws, strategies, policies and programs which positively affect the smooth running of the project in the community for the past 10 years.



# Pray for Upcoming Events for 2026

## APRIL

### Asia Pacific Multicultural Conference for Pastors



**Date:** Wednesday

15.4.26

**Time:** 8:30am to 5:00pm

AEST

**Location:** Revival Church

663-669 King Georges Rd Penshurst

**Cost:** \$50pp or \$80 for 2 people (includes Morning Tea + Lunch)

**Speakers:** Pastors from Indonesia, Pakistan, Korea, Tonga, India, Samoa, Fiji + more.

**Lead Pastor and Convenor:** Greg Bondar, Ministry Director EHC Australia & NZ.

**Register by clicking [here](#)**

## MAY

### Outback Cultural Mission



**Date:** Sunday

17.5.26 to 24.5.26

**Location:**

Alice Springs

**Mission Leader:**

Ps James Dargin, Wiradjuri elder

**Register expressions of interest [here](#)**



**Further Details Coming Soon!**

## JULY

### Samoa Youth Mission



**Date:** Saturday 11.7.26 to Sunday 19.7.26

**Location:** Samoa

**Register expressions of interest [here](#)**

**Further Details Coming Soon!**



## OCTOBER

### EHC Prayer Breakfast



**Date:** October

**Time:** 7:00am to 9:00am

AEST

**Location:** Strangers

Function Rm Parliament of NSW  
6 Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

**Register expressions of interest [here](#)**

**Further Details Coming Soon!**



## DECEMBER

### EHC Christmas Spectacular



**Date:** Saturday 5.12.26

**Time:** 3:00pm to 6:00pm

**Location:** Civi Theatre 16 MacMahon St, Hurstville

**Register expressions of interest [here](#)**

**Further Details Coming Soon!**

## Your Will & God's Will



### Aussies urged to donate more of their \$5.4 trillion inheritance

A report on Australian bequest trends show that only 1% of the \$150 billion in annual inheritances goes to charity, with the nation facing a once-in-a-generation chance to unlock funds for good.

### Consider gifting Every Home for Christ (EHC) a Bequest and supporting us in your Will

Making a prayerful gift in your Will is a positive way to continue supporting EHC even after your earthly life has ended on this side of eternity.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of all who give to EHC in their Will. These gifts enable EHC Australia and New Zealand to pursue its vision and mission of bringing the Gospel to *Everyone* and *Everywhere* and so fulfill the Great Commission.

### How will gifts be used?

Leaving EHC a gift in your Will enables us to grow the ministry of getting the gospel to *Everyone* and *Everywhere*. It will also help us in visiting churches, undertaking campaigns, conducting Schools of Prayer events, contacting those in remote and rural regions, providing education and training to churches and finally partnering with other Christian organisations to fulfill the Great Commission.

For more information please contact us at  
Ph: +61 2 9570 8211

Email: [ehc@everyhome.org.au](mailto:ehc@everyhome.org.au)

## May we Speak at your Church



As part of fulfilling the Great Commission, Greg Bondar is undertaking a series of deputations and speaking engagements at churches, delivering sermons and participating in church and Christian events about the work of Every Home for Christ. As an accredited Chaplain and authorised Lay Minister, Greg has spoken at regional and capital city locations across Australia and internationally.

Greg is now reaching out for invitations to speak at local churches or events anytime and anywhere as part of the vision to 'carry Christ to EveryHome, Everywhere in Every Generation'. Congregations are encouraged to approach their Pastor or Minister to extend an invitation, especially during ministry months or weeks.

If Greg is unavailable, there are plenty of standby speakers ready to step in. For more information or to arrange a speaking engagement, please contact the EHC Office at (02) 9570 8211 or if you prefer email us at [ehc@everyhome.org.au](mailto:ehc@everyhome.org.au).

# Let's Pray!

1 **PHILIPPINES** Pop. 116,786,962 Map 169 Pray for Sam and Emer

Evangelista as they host the February Asia-Pacific Leadership conference in Manila. **Luke 16 (1 Timothy 4:6)**

2 **CANADA** Pop 40,126,723 Map 177 Please pray for Denys Blackmore

and staff for EHC's Finding The Hope outreach. It is a multi-faceted approach to communicating the gospel message to as many people as possible, everywhere possible in our nation. **Luke 17 (2 Timothy 1:1-2:13)**

3 **PRAY FOR TANNER & BETHANY PEAKE** Tanner is now preparing for

the 80th Anniversary celebrations of EHC globally. Please pray for EHC to grow and strengthen and to spread the gospel to new places and reach even more people. **Luke 18 (2 Timothy 2:14-4:22)**

4 **PRAY FOR GREG AND LYNNE BONDAR** Pray

God will guide Greg in his leadership as Executive Director in Australia and New Zealand and his wife Lynne as she supports Greg in the ministry. **Luke 19 (1 Peter 1:1-2:10)**

5 **PRAY FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Pray for the EHC Directors in Australia & New Zealand that the Lord will guide them in all their decision-making. **Luke 20 (1 Peter 2:11-4:11)**

6 **PRAY FOR OUR REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL DIRECTORS** Pray for Wolfgang Lee (Singapore) and Manasa Kolivusso (Fiji) as they guide EHC ministries throughout Asia Pacific. **Luke 21 (1 Peter 4:12-5:14)**

## FEBRUARY 2026

Bible Readings: This month the daily text will be taken from the book of Luke & John. For those wanting to do the one-year Bible reading program these chapters are in brackets.

7 **PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY** sons, daughters and grandchildren, plus others to come to Christ. Get a piece of paper and write down their names. Get their photos and pray every day for their salvation; eternity without Christ is a long time! **Luke 22 (2 Peter 1)**

8 **AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND** Aust: Pop. 26,439,111 Map 147 NZ: Pop. 5,228,100 Map 148 Please pray for the nations of Australia and New Zealand. Pray for the spiritual awakening and revival among their people. Ask for God's guidance and blessing over the Every Home Global Concern ministries operating in these countries, that they may effectively spread the love and truth of Christ. **Luke 23 (2 Peter 2)**

9 **BOTSWANA** Pop. 15,099,727 Map 45 Pray for God's guidance as new partnerships are forged with church ministries and the civil society for the advancement of the kingdom of God. **Luke 24 (2 Peter 3)**

10 **GUYANA** Pop. 54,850,648 Map 135 Pray for strategic ministry partnerships rooted in unity and that churches would embrace collaboration to reach communities and the nation with the gospel. **John 1 (1 John 1-2)**

11 **HUNGARY** Pop. 19,859,921 Map 220 Recently, Every Home visited the small villages of Zala County. Pray for all the families reached, that they would experience the love of Jesus. **John 2 (1 John 3-4)**

12 **CREATIVE ACCESS - MIDDLE EAST** Pray God would protect, guide, lead and fill the hearts of new believers with peace and joy. Pray for more churches to partner with Every Home in ministry. **John 3 (1 John 5)**

13 **SOUTH SUDAN** Pop. 38,140,910 Map 84 Pray for the margins team as they reach out to women and children who have suffered trauma, pain and grief. Pray for transformation and lasting impact. **John 4 (2 John)**

## Catch up on Every Home News in Just 5 Minutes!

We've been working behind the scenes to make staying connected even easier. Over the past year, we've used AI to create short audio overviews of our newsletters — summarised highlights, powerful stories and ministry updates — all in under 5 minutes.

Perfect for your commute, walk, or quiet moment of reflection.

Click [here](#) to Listen Now.



14 **ARGENTINA** Pop. 6,714,560 Map 77 Wichi indigenous communities are building a new church—a result of the growth and fruit of evangelism in the jungle. Pray for resources for this church. **John 5 (3 John)**

15 **CREATIVE ACCESS - CENTRAL ASIA** Pray for all who heard the good news at recent tea, coffee and Christian music events. Ask God to water the seeds planted, bringing lasting spiritual growth. **John 6 (Jude)**

16 **BULGARIA** Pop. 10,762,817 Map 146 Pray for field workers Bogdan and Raya as they travel with their team for an outreach in Shumen Province. Pray many would accept Jesus during this time. **John 7 (Revelation 1)**

17 **CREATIVE ACCESS - EAST AFRICA** Pray God would bless the men's barbershop outreach project. Pray jobs would be made available through this project, bringing transformation to the community. **John 8 (Revelation 2-3)**

18 **VENEZUELA** Pop. 28,516,896 Map 214 Pray for the arrival of "Love Your Neighbor Kits", with no customs delays. Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire churches to share Christ's love through this initiative. **John 9 (Revelation 4)**

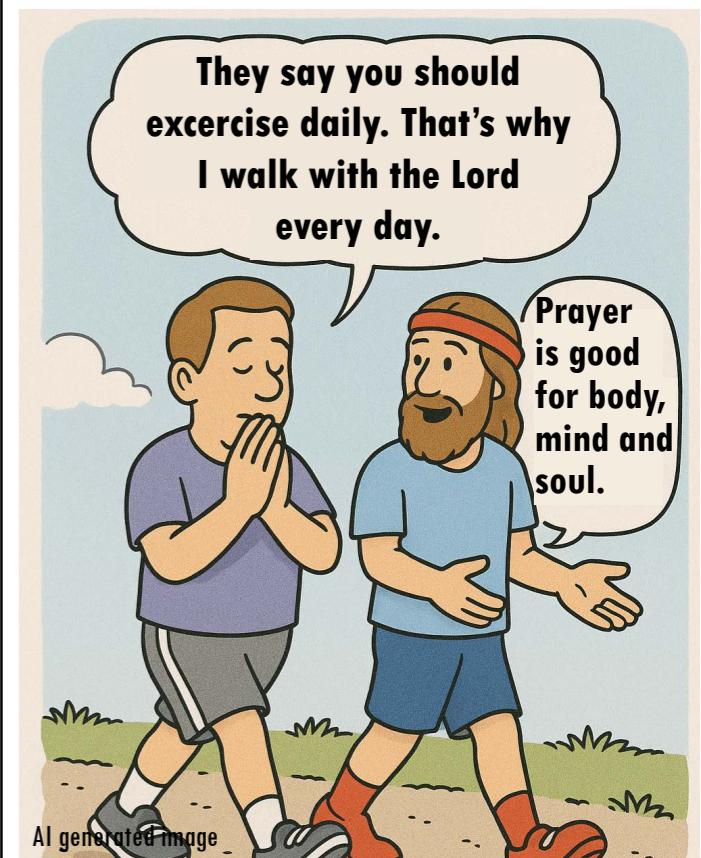
19 **SOLOMON ISLANDS** Pop. 70,545,865 Map 16 Pray for members of Every Home leadership as they seek out opportunities to establish strong connections with churches, thus opening doors of ministry here. **John 10 (Revelation 5)**

20 **REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA** Pop. 2,996,106 Map 102 Pray for the upcoming outreach in the village of Buteni in the Hincesti district. Pray for many volunteers, for people to respond and for God's protection. **John 11 (Revelation 6:1-8:5)**

21 **CYPRUS** Pop. 131,946,900 Map 178 Pray for the new group trained in evangelism and prayer. Ask God to equip and strengthen them to share boldly and to serve faithfully wherever they are. **John 12 (Revelation 8:6-11:19)**

22 **SEYCHELLES** Pop. 3,806,671 Map 103 Pray for the recruiting of new volunteers for Every Home Seychelles. Pray that God will help select the right people with a heart and compassion for the those seeking Him. **John 13 (Revelation 12-14)**

23 **MEXICO** Pop. 2,562,122 Map 10 Pray for the new believers in Durango as they receive Bibles. Ask God to strengthen and encourage them so they will remain steadfast and committed to Christ. **John 14 (Revelation 15-16)**



# MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

**ZOOM WEBINAR**  
**TUESDAY**  
**24th February**

see your regions times below

4:30 pm Perth	7:30 pm Syd / Melb / Hobart
6:00 pm Darwin	9:30 pm NZ / Samoa
6:30 pm Brisbane	8:30 pm Fiji
7:00 pm Adelaide	8:30 am UK

Register by emailing, going to our website or  
clicking on QR code below  
[ehc@everyhome.org.au](mailto:ehc@everyhome.org.au)

<https://everyhome.org.au/events/>



**NOTE:** Once you register you can decide if you wish to participate each month AND you can use the SAME link each month so no need to re-register each month.



This month our special guests are from **Military Christian Fellowship of Australia (MCF-A)** (L) **Steve Neuhaus** (Army Chaplain & Chair of MCF-A) and (R) **Darren Thomas** (WO2 ret'd and Vice Chair of MCF-A).



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**24** **CREATIVE ACCESS - SOUTH ASIA** Every Home in this restricted nation seeks 15 prayer partners to be key to praying in labourers for ministry. Pray God would provide these prayer partners. **John 15 (Revelation 17-18)**

**25** **IRELAND** Pop 26,439,111 Map 147 Praise God for the positive response to the County Fermanagh project. There were many reports of individuals being saved and others returning to Christ! **John 16 (Revelation 19)**

**26** **CREATIVE ACCESS - MIDDLE EAST** Pray for protection for underground churches and for people to have opportunities to know Jesus. Pray for God's presence to be felt in this restricted nation. **John 17 (Revelation 20)**

**27** **BURUNDI** Pop. 5,623,329 Map 96 Pray for strength and renewal for the teams as many have grown weary and discouraged. May the Holy Spirit awaken them to their purpose and calling in Christ. **John 18 (Revelation 21)**

**28** **BRAZIL** Pop. 12,188,788 Map 32 Pray for God to open doors for evangelism and discipleship. May the Lord raise up Spirit-filled volunteers, strategic partnerships and creative resources. **John 19 (Revelation 22)**

## Join the Re-Churching Movement!

Take a stand in restoring and revitalising our Churches by placing your Church address here and circulating this newsletter to your congregation. Contact us today to get started—details below.

Together, let's rebuild and re-ignite the spirit of our Churches!