



Helping mission-hearted pastors and churches grow their passion, skills and involvement in God's global mission

Update 1

Dear GGC friends,

Thank you.

Thank you for expressing your willingness to hear regularly from me about Growing Global Churches.

Thank you for your patience in waiting for the first update. Here it is!



It's now just over three months since I concluded at Nowra Baptist Church. After hosting our Myanmar friend Veia for the first two months or so and then having a holiday (at beautiful Hawks Nest of course) I'm keen to let you know what's happening as I very much long for your prayers.



GGC Start Up

As you are probably aware GGC is a ministry that doesn't actually exist!

Well... that's not quite true. It is underway.

Although numerous people have expressed their enthusiasm (see below) for the kind of work I hope to do, and are forthcoming with ideas and help, it's totally up to me to make it happen. This is both exciting and daunting. Consequently, in the last 6 months, I have started meeting with mission leaders to chat about GGC and to ask their thoughts. In secular terms I'm starting a small business from scratch and having to drum up clients! And that takes time. So to date I haven't had any preaching or speaking engagements.

Having said that, there are some coming! I've been greatly encouraged that a few people have contacted me "out of the blue" as a result of them having attended mission seminars I've previously run with Geoff Stanbury at REACHOUT and SMBC. They've been very positive about the contribution they think I can make. And this has led to a few speaking opportunities that I mention below.

However, in all this, please pray that I will be more excited by bringing glory to God and the spread of the gospel of Jesus than simply getting GGC up and running. It's His work, and His time, and for His church. I must not forget it. So GGC is, like everything we do, subject to [James 4:13-17](#): "if it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

What's happening?



[Missions Interlink](#) is a group of networks aiming to facilitate and resource mission agencies throughout Australia. In early June I went along to a meeting of the **MI NSW State Leadership team**. It was great to connect with them and start to get a feel for how MI operates. What was really encouraging was their enthusiasm for the work I hope to be doing with churches in promoting God's global mission. They explained the great desire

they've had over the years for someone to be involved with MI in this work. I will continue attending their leadership meetings as well as numerous events they or their associated organisations conduct.

Ministry Matters is a weekly event at [SMBC](#). A number of mission organisations attend and interact with each other and the students. I've been graciously allowed to go along as well, so will do so for the first time on 21st July.



To help me get my brain in gear I'm going back to college. SMBC runs an intensive course on **local church and global mission**. It's full on, but only for three days (3-5 August), so hopefully I'll manage!



MOORE
COLLEGE

On 22nd July, I've been asked to give some seminars at [Moore College](#) as part of their [Mission Awareness Week](#). As this is my first outing with GGC I'm keen to be well prepared and to make the most of the opportunity.

6-7 August I will be attending the Missions Interlink "**Reps Retreat**" at Katoomba. This is an annual gathering of mission agency leaders held before the large missions conference [REACHOUT](#) on 8-9 August. Both these events will be a wonderful opportunity for me to get to know and learn from leaders in the world of mission.


ReachOut

I've also been asked to give some seminars at [Manning Valley REACHOUT](#) at Taree on 12th September. I'll preach in a local church on Sunday and possibly be involved in other related events that weekend.



For Prayer

- ❖ I'd really appreciate your prayers for these activities coming up that they will be useful in God's hands to advance His global mission that I will prepare well and make the most of the opportunities to start GGC well.
- ❖ Also, there's a lot of thinking, talking and preparation to be done to get GGC going. Please pray for wisdom in asking good questions of people and listening well.
- ❖ Please pray that I will grow personally in my own passion, skills and involvement in God's global mission.

 PS. This logo is a work in progress. The next update may have a different one! Thanks to Alex Utber and Ken Percival for their inspiration and technological skills.