

Andrea and Andrew Young

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CHURCH
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The call in action

Dear friends,

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. (1 Peter 1:3–4 NIV)

The Easter season is here and amid all the Easter bunnies and Easter eggs the message of Easter continues. We have a living hope and can rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. He is risen, hallelujah!

It is wonderful to see this living hope increase and grow within the Nepali setting. The church we attend, a Nepali version of an Anglican church, is preparing a group of young people for baptism in the next few weeks. It is a picture of what is happening across the country as the church continues to spread in the cities, towns and villages in the foothills of the Himalayas. According to Open Doors, “there are 1.3 million Christians in Nepal from a population of 30.6 million.” Seventy years ago there were hardly any Christians in the country and its borders were closed to mission work. Now one in 30 people is a follower of Jesus Christ. A remarkable change that goes all the way back to the resurrection of Jesus. At Easter, we remember that out of the death comes new life and new hope, a living hope for the world.

Church of Christ the Nazarene, as our church is called, now has three congregations. Two of them meet on Saturday morning, in Nepali, and one on a Sunday morning in English. Our vicar, Rev Rinzi Lama, who is also the associate dean of Nepal, is busy planting and supporting new churches in different parts of the country. We have become part of the Sunday congregation and Andrew has been asked to join the preaching team. Please pray that his preaching will cross the cultural divide.

What a relief! Andrea has just finished her third semester exams at Tribhuvan uni. It has been a long, hard term. Still, only one more semester to go, oh, and a dissertation to write. One day it will all be over. And what will she do then?

United Mission to Nepal (UMN) is facing an uphill struggle with the negotiations for our new project agreements. It seems like the powers that be have a down on international non-government organisations, not



Name: Andrea and Andrew Young

Location: Nepal

Our call: We are called back to Nepal, where we worked in the early 1990s, to use our skills and experience to support the mission community.

Our role: Providing vital pastoral care to United Mission to Nepal (UMN) in Kathmandu, Tansen and Okhaldhunga.



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Andrea with some of her student friends

only UMN but others also working in the development area, especially those with a Christian background. Your prayers that these agreements can be signed are much needed. Linked to them are visa posts for people waiting to come and work in Nepal, held up till the visas are granted.

The prayer space we have created is starting to be used regularly as a place of counselling during the working week, with Andrea and two other counsellors from different missions seeing clients. We've also begun a weekly Bible study, mainly for UMNers, but open to anyone in our area to join. It's growing, but we pray for others to start coming too.

This week we had some wonderful news from the UK. Our daughter, Anna, gave birth to her first child, a beautiful baby girl whom they have named Mia. We are overjoyed that mother and baby are both doing well. To celebrate, we are having a holiday in the UK over Easter so that we can welcome our newest grandchild and spend time with the rest of the family. We need some rest, but it's doubtful we will get any!

Our friend Prem Tamang, one of the Anglican vicars in Kathmandu, has been developing an Anglican training centre and was recently involved in a church leader's training. In his own words this is how he describes the work: "Leadership Training Discovery Bible Study (DBS) received as the gift from God to equip people of God in Anglican Church in Nepal through Anglican Training Centre. This training creates an opportunity for every believer to have chance to discover truth by themselves and with group to deepen into God's Word. With this gift, Anglican Church in Nepal can be extended God's Kingdom in Nepal and beyond. There are several leaders received vision from the Lord to start the DBS to establish healthy church in Nepal." Prem and his family are in our prayers.

This year Prem may have the opportunity to study for six weeks at the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, a place that exists to provide education for church leaders from the non-Western world. Should his application be successful he will be looking for somewhere to stay in the Oxford area, so if you know of anyone willing to give lodging to a Nepali vicar we would love to hear from you.

We find such strength in your partnership with us in mission. We love hearing from you. Our details are below if you want to get in touch. Thank you for your support.

God's peace,

Andrew & Andrea



Photos from top to bottom: Andrea and Andrew; HR meeting in the prayer space; Bible study roof picnic; new arrival, baby Mia

GOING FURTHER WITH CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

Prayer is the engine room of mission: Here at CMS, we know that the history of mission is the history of answered prayer. We would love you to join us as a praying community around the world with our weekly prayer email. Go to churchmissionsociety.org/prayer

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this link letter on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400

You can give to Andrea and Andrew at: churchmissionsociety.org/young

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