



Andrea and Andrew Young

Link Letter no. 17 | October 2022

Contact details:
andrewcyoung21@gmail.com
andreamyoung2@hotmail.co.uk



Location: Nepal



What we do: Providing vital pastoral care to United Mission to Nepal (UMN) in Kathmandu, Tansen and Okhaldhunga.

Dear friends,

Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. Hosea 6:3

How important the rains are! As we write this, we are living through the torrential downpours of the monsoon here in Nepal, yet we read of the desperate need for rain in the UK and throughout Europe. The rains here started the rice planting season, and the fields are turning green with the growing crops. But without rain the crops across Europe are being lost and destroyed. Drought and flood, it seems, are becoming the norm. We need rain at the right time and in the right amount. The same can be said for our spiritual lives. If we are to grow spiritually, then God's presence, like the rains, is essential. Unlike the irregularity of rainfall across the planet, the life-giving rain of God in our lives is regulated – if we acknowledge the Lord and keep on doing that each day, he will come to us to nourish our inner lives.

A few weeks ago, we saw the adverse effects of the monsoon rains when we travelled to visit our hospital staff in Okhaldhunga. Several times, we came across landslides that had cut right across the road. Fortunately, they were not bad enough to stop the flow of traffic, but were precarious to cross. In one place a lorry had tried to cross the landslide and overturned. Okhaldhunga is a small town that nestles in the foothills of the Himalayas to the east of Kathmandu, about an eight-hour journey by Land Rover. UMN established a small hospital in the town over 50 years ago and it has grown to a 100-bed hospital with patients coming from the surrounding hill villages. In the hospital there are four expats: a doctor and his wife from Australia, a physiotherapist from the UK, a nurse from Norway and a team of Nepali nurses and doctors. It is a truly multicultural expression of God's love to the people of the area. We are praying for a new family coming from Australia who are due to join the team in January next year.

Back at home in Kathmandu, Andrea is in her last semester at Tribhuvan University, taking exams,



Okhaldhunga – our visit to east Nepal

Support Andrea and Andrew Young:
churchmissionsociety.org/young

**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



completing reports and planning a dissertation. It has been tiring, working through the heat of the monsoon. This semester, too, Andrea has been mentoring a small group of the students in practical counselling, when they have taken on clients in a real work setting. It has given them a feel for the reality of counselling in a controlled environment. On top of that she has been helping to relaunch a play space for children on the paediatric ward at Patan Hospital, which has included training for the ward nurses in therapeutic play skills. Please pray for energy and wisdom in these different areas.

The prayer space (ground floor flat) is in regular use for counselling sessions, weekly Bible study and early morning prayer and breakfast meetings. Recently, it has become

the venue for the UMN leadership team to engage in a monthly training session using material from the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity called Transforming Work. Andrew and a Nepali member of the UMN board are facilitating these trainings. For myself this has been a wonderful way to get to know our leadership team at a more personal level.

An answer to prayer came a few weeks ago when the project agreements for UMN's work were signed by the Nepali government. It means the visa posts for expats associated with the agreements can now be granted. Thanks for all who prayed for this to happen. Two new UMNers who have been waiting for this to happen can now officially start work. The downside is that our previous tax-exempt status has ended, and we must register to pay tax to the Nepal Inland Revenue.

Our expat support advisor finished working in Nepal in June and Andrew has seen a work increase as – temporarily, we hope – he covers the recruitment process for people applying to work with UMN and keeps sending agencies up-to-date with our current needs. Pray for his IT skills. They need to improve!

Your partnership with us in this mission is a resource that we find a great strength day by day in all that we do. We love hearing from you. Do write. As always, we thank you for your support.

God's peace,
Andrew & Andrea



Photos from top to bottom: With the Okhaldhunga team; Andrea training the paediatric nurses in play skills; Andrea with nurses getting their play skills certificates; Andrew with the HR team



Going further with Church Mission Society

Stories, stories, stories: Find out what God is up to in the world by reading about our people in mission around the world as they faithfully follow their calling. Go to churchmissionsociety.org/stories

Please note that opinions expressed in link letters are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

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. Church Mission Society is a mission community acknowledged by the Church of England. Registered Company No. 6985330 and Registered Charity No. 1131655 (England and Wales) and SC047163 (Scotland).