

### Upcoming Events

#### **NSW Camp Meeting**

Dates: 7-9 June 2024

Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp

#### **Solomon Islands Fly-n-Build**

Dates: 24 June to 25 July, 2024

#### **Camponotus Activity Camp**

Dates: 8-11 July, 2024

Location: Yarramundi, NSW

#### **Pastoral Families Conference**

Dates: 14-18 July, 2024

Location: Kiama & Schofields, NSW

#### **VIC-TAS Delegation Session**

Date: 21 July, 2024

#### **East Timor Mission Trip**

Dates: 30 July to 27 August, 2024

Location: East Timor

#### **QLD Camp Meeting**

Dates: 30 August to 1 September, 2024

Location: North Tamborine, QLD

#### **NZ Prophecy Seminar**

Dates: 7-15 September, 2024

Location: New Lynn, Auckland

#### **QLD Youth Camp**

Dates: 4-7 October, 2024

Location: TBC

#### **WA Camp**

Dates: 8-12 November, 2024

Location: TBC

#### **Week of Prayer**

Dates: 6-15 December, 2024

#### **GC Delegation Session**

Dates: 20 January - 3 February, 2025

Location: Bogota, Colombia

#### **GC Session Public Meetings**

Dates: 6-9 February, 2025

Location: Medellin, Colombia

### Something to share?

Email events and news to  
[goodtidings@sdarm.org.au](mailto:goodtidings@sdarm.org.au)

### East Timor Mission Update

Over the past few years our readers have followed the developing mission in East Timor. East Timor is a country very close to Australia, with a difficult recent history, and with many opportunities to help people and share the love of God.

The Australasian Union has been officially supporting missionary workers in East Timor for the past couple of years. This is on top of many volunteer efforts that have gone into the work there in the last decade or so.

Now another missionary family from the USA is joining the small mission. This will be their first overseas missionary experience, and we are very excited along with them to see what God will do.

#### **Fly and Build**

We need some willing hands to travel to East Timor to help finish the house where the new family will be staying, and to finish connecting the fresh water and septic systems.

The dates will be: **30 July to 27 August, 2024**

We will be flying via Darwin. Please contact [ntyler@sdarm.org.au](mailto:ntyler@sdarm.org.au) for more information if you would like to volunteer.

#### **Building Project Fundraiser**

We also need some additional funds to help complete the building work above. If you are impressed to help, please send donations to:

BSB: 032-274

Account: 498391

Name: Trustee for SDARM AUC Trust

Reference: East Timor Mission



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# QLD/NSW Youth Camp

Over the long weekend, from Friday 29 September to Monday 2 October 2023, the NSW & QLD Youth Department leaders along with their assistants organised their first Youth Camp and it turned out to be an unforgettable experience for the 30 enthusiastic attendees.

Led by our dedicated ministers, this camp aimed to instil spiritual growth, foster community bonds, and provide a fun-filled weekend which we hoped would create cherished memories.

As the attendees arrived at the campsite on Friday 29th September 2023, nestled amidst the serene beauty of nature at Stuarts Point NSW, the anticipation of our young people filled the air. Some came as veterans of previous church activities, while majority were attending their very first Youth Camp. Regardless of their backgrounds and experience, everyone had one thing in common—a hunger to grow closer to God, discover more about their faith and discuss raw topics, like what is holding them back from taking a step forward in their Christian walk.

From day one, our leaders set the tone by emphasising the importance of unity and camaraderie. Icebreaker activities allowed the attendees to introduce themselves, breaking down any initial awkwardness and paving the way for new friendships to form. It was heartwarming to witness the supportive atmosphere where everyone encouraged and uplifted one another in all discussions and activities.

The schedule was packed with a variety of sessions designed to nurture the attendees' spiritual journey. The Youth were split into groups based on their age and attended discussions that were conducted by our ministers, delving deep into Scripture and encouraging open discussions. Our youth leaders and minis-



ters skillfully facilitated these sessions, making sure each attendee's voice was heard, and every question was answered.

These deep discussions not only provided intellectual insight, but it also opened up emotional and personal connections with the Word of God. Attendees shared their experiences, struggles, and triumphs, and found a safe space for vulnerability and growth. It was truly amazing to witness a transformation in some of the participants as they discovered new revelations and a deeper understanding of their faith. In addition to the intellectual nourishment, physical activities were also incorporated into the camp program. Outdoor worship, team-building exercises, and adventure challenges brought an element of excitement and fun.

Through these activities, the attendees learned valuable lessons about teamwork, perseverance, and trust.

The joyous laughter and enthusiastic cheers filled the campsite, fostering a sense of community. Beyond the sessions and activities, it was the little moments that made our Youth Camp truly special.

~Jenny Foese



# Aussie Families Assist in Vanuatu

Bringing their combined experience in media production to assist the South Pacific Union Mission, the Thiel and Tyler families travelled to Vanuatu in December, 2023.

The main mission was to assist in filming several doctrinal presentations, cooking demonstrations, and musical items, and to help take photos for a new edition of a South Pacific vegetarian cookbook.

The local brethren helped out by constructing a special “bush studio” which we used to film most of the content.

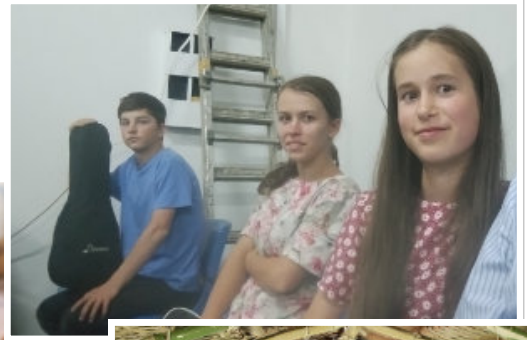
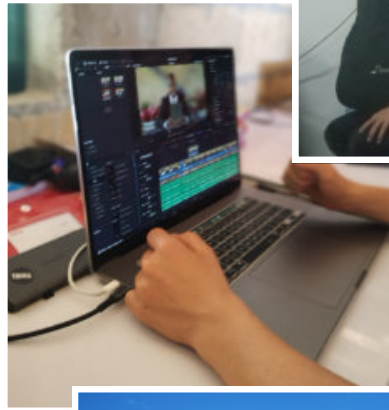
The SPUM held a delegation session, a workers’ seminar and youth convention, all at the same location on Efate Island in Vanuatu. Delegates and members attended from Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa and French Polynesia.

The media work progressed throughout all of these events. There was something for everyone to do, with filming, sound recording and editing to be worked on. As a special extra, the children sang and filmed the song “Jesus Loves Me” in several languages.

Of course we also enjoyed the outing during the youth convention—a boat trip to an uninhabited island—and the public outreach in the Port Vila markets.

It was wonderful to meet many new friends, and to catch up with brethren we hadn’t seen for a long time. We look forward to another opportunity to enjoy a South Pacific event together!

~Nathan Tyler



# Solomon Islands Project

## **The Project Resumes**

The original date didn't work out due to pandemic travel restrictions, and several years have gone by since the Solomon Islands building project was supposed to be completed.

But now, after a long delay, the project is about to get underway! It is scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> of June to the 25<sup>th</sup> of July, 2024.

## **Fly and Build**

Your assistance is needed to help build a church sanctuary for service as a lighthouse in the South Pacific.

Skilled trades and willing labourers are needed. If you have carpentry, plumbing, electrical, cement block or concreting skills, we need your assistance.

The project will offer you food, shelter (or bring a tent), collection from and return to airport. The aim is to raise this building up in 5 weeks.

## **Finance appeal**

If you are not able to help in person, you can support the project in another important way: donations for materials.

Your financial contribution great or small is able to make a difference. Please consider giving and mentioning Solomon Islands Fly and Build and we will make sure your donation is sent to the Solomons.

The project does have funds, however due to increases in building materials during the time that the project has been on hold, an additional AU\$20,000 is required to purchase the needed materials.

Charity is not about how much you can give, but about your passion to make a difference. Blessed are the cheerful givers.

## **Prayers**

Please pray for the success of the project, the safety of the workers, and the presence of the Holy Spirit on all activities that will be held in the new building.

## **Donations**

Please send all donations via the Australasian Union Conference account:

BSB: 032-274

Account: 498391

Name: Trustee for SDARM AUC Trust

Reference: Solomons Building



# In Loving Memory of Gabi Mandic

Gabriel Mandic was born in southern Germany in the summer of 1981. He spent the first part of his life living in the picturesque landscape of the German Alps. He enjoyed many hiking trips and spent large amounts of time in his youth playing soccer with friends. He was a very active child that would not sit still for very long. When he was a teenager, he followed in his father's footsteps and began his plumbing apprenticeship in Germany. When he was 16 years old, his older sister Brigita married an Australian boy, and then the mission to move Down Under started to become a reality.

Once he moved to Australia in the summer of 2005 Gabriel thought it was time to find a bride and settle down. I remember meeting Gabriel after he had been here some time, at one of the Victorian camps. We had an instant connection. He was very brave, and on my birthday, he sent me beautiful long-stem roses. We began dating, and later married in the spring of 2008.

Gabriel began his own business and worked many hours to provide for our family. God was always at the forefront whenever he conducted his business. He was always kind and went out of his way to please others. He worked tirelessly to achieve his goals both professionally and spiritually. Gabriel loved to talk about God and would have many religious discussions with anyone he could, especially at work.

He spent many weekends helping youth in Victoria. Gabriel would take them surfing on Sundays, but to get the reward they would need to go canvassing first. In the many years that he went canvassing, a large proportion of the Geelong area has been completed on these days.

In the spring of 2012, we welcomed our first bundle of joy, Tamara. They say children change you, and this was the case with Gabriel. He became our protector and spiritual guide. He loved Tamara so much. Gabriel had such a patience with her and would spend time teaching her about God and His love. He loved to play games and teach her how to surf, ride a bike, skateboard and many other things.

Gabriel loved the outdoors and spending time with friends in nature. This was a highlight in our family time. We would go with friends to the river, make a fire and spend time in God's presence. Gabriel took us to many places here in Australia but also around the world where we hiked or had some outdoor adventure. He loved to be with his friends and family especially outdoors. So many nights he would light the outdoor fireplace at home, and we would sit and chat into the early hours of the morning.

After many years of struggle, in the autumn of 2022 we welcomed our second baby, David. He was a de-



light to our lives and brought tremendous joy to Gabriel's life, although it was to be only for a short time. He still calls for his 'Tata' on a regular basis.

He was a constant support for me and the kids. Gabriel was always positive and made us laugh whenever he could. There would always be a joke about something in the house.

Words cannot describe the hole that has been left in our hearts the day he left this world. Gabriel was an honest man that loved to serve God and others. His ever willingness to help others whenever they needed it and be a true friend is something I believe will be missed by all. He never judged others by their clothes or status or what they could offer him. All he wanted was for everyone to feel accepted and happy whenever he was around. His legacy now lives on through his children. I pray that they will be as kind, caring and accepting of everyone as their father was. We will miss him tremendously. Till we meet again.

~Susanna Mandic

## Poem

Not, how did he die, but how did he live?  
Not, what did he gain, but what did he give?  
These are the units to measure the worth  
Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.  
Nor what was his church, nor what was his creed?  
But had he befriended those really in need?  
Was he ever ready, with words of good cheer,  
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?  
Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say,  
But how many were sorry when he passed away?



# QLD Camp 2023

Over 80 people gathered in August 2023, at Mt. Tambourine for the annual QLD Camp.

The theme was "For Such A Time As This," focusing on the time of Esther and Mordecai.

Everyone enjoyed the fellowship, food and spiritual encouragement. A highlight was the visit to the Tambourine Mountain Botanic Gardens.

Join us again for camp this year, 30 August to 1 September.



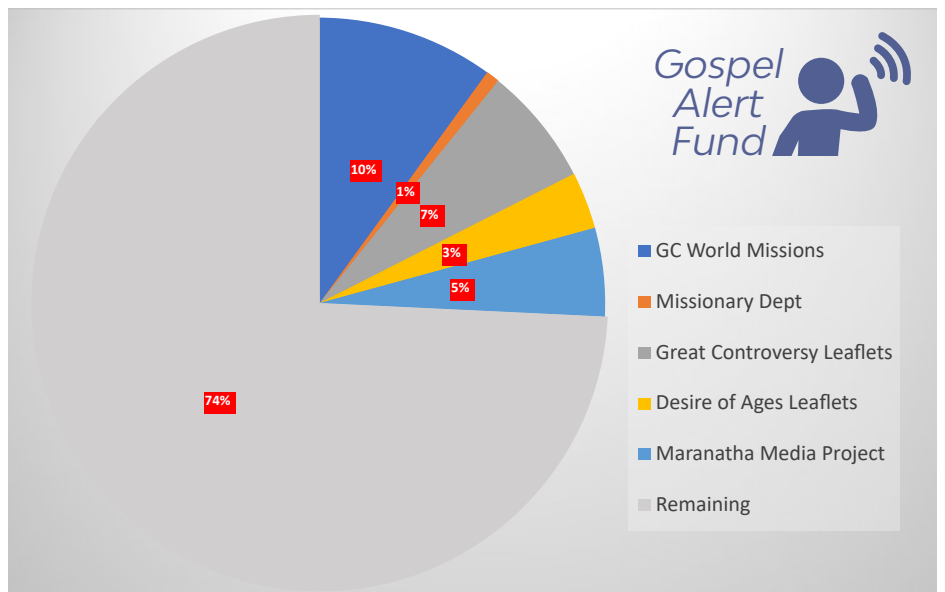
# Gospel Alert Fund

This fund is to be used in support of projects that proclaim the gospel to those who have not heard it and to educate on healthful living.

We invite departments and units within our Union to submit further requests for projects in line with this fund's purpose.

### Funds allocated so far:

GC World Missions:	5,000.00
AUC Missionary Dept:	386.28
Great Controversy Leaflets	3,372.73
Desire of Ages Leaflets	1,618.38
Maranatha Media Project	<u>2,500.00</u>
Funds Remaining:	\$ 37,122.61



- GC World Missions
- Missionary Dept
- Great Controversy Leaflets
- Desire of Ages Leaflets
- Maranatha Media Project
- Remaining

# 2025 General Conference Session Public Meetings

Registration is now open for the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference public meetings, which will be held in Medellín, Colombia, February 6-9, 2025.

This is the first time that Colombia will host the general conference session. There will be visitors from around the world including all the delegates representing the various unions and missions from all 10 of the church regions.

The website for registrations is now available at <https://epagosreforma.com/>



Medellín, Colombia

There is a 10% discount (using coupon code CONGRESO2025) for those who register before July 31.



## GC Educational Centre Dedication

The new General Conference Educational Centre was dedicated on Sabbath the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2024.

The Australasian Union was represented at the event by brethren Ben Thiel and Paul Chapman.

Uplifting messages were shared and the history of the construction project was highlighted.

You can view the videos of the whole program at <https://www.youtube.com/roanokesdarm>





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