

August 2026, Michael & Rani Grivas-Allison



Michael and Rani Grivas-Allison

with Alexi (4)

Serving the Lord in Belgium



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your patience with the gap between this and our previous newsletter, and **particularly for your prayers for God's wisdom and direction in conversations with the GBU about our future service here.**

You can thank God that He has indeed directed us, albeit not in the way we expected...

Over the last few months, our conversations with the GBU have raised a number of difficulties and sadly, despite our best efforts, we were unable to find a good way forward. **As you can imagine, this prompted much prayer and reflection on our part, and in the last few weeks, we made the painful decision to finish-up our service as GBU staff.**

We are deeply saddened to share this outcome with you. **More so given the many good things we've seen God bring through your partnership with us over the past three years.** This has not only included learning French and starting on-the-ground ministry among students, but also the deepening of relationships in our local

church and neighbourhood, a growing appreciation of Belgian culture, and a stream of genuine opportunities in which to point others to Jesus.

We want to thank you for your strong partnership in prayer, encouragement, and financial support which has made all this possible. **We also want to recognise the disappointment this news will be**, as we know that along with us, many of you were looking forward to seeing God build on these foundations in the next season.

What is next?

The next few months will be difficult as we continue to process this grief. But also, we hope, joyful. Michael has several opportunities to preach and serve at **church**, we'll be welcoming our second **baby** (a girl this time!) in late September, we'll be preparing to leave Brussels for **Home Assignment** in early December as originally planned, and we'll be prayerfully considering **future ministry opportunities** overseas with CMS or back home in Australia.

In all this we remain committed to the CMS vision to see a world that knows the beauty and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We invite you to continue walking with us as we keep seeking that vision over the coming months, humbly recognising that as go-ers and send-ers alike, we are never quite able to determine or anticipate what that will look like!

You can expect **a few more updates** from us before we get on a plane in early December, and we look forward to reconnecting with many of you once we're on Australian soil.

With deep thankfulness for your partnership,

Michael & Rani

Please thank God...

- **For the assurance that He continues to build His church** and that nothing will prevail against it (Matt 16:18).
- **For the privilege of participating in His mission**, even though He doesn't need the service of our human hands (Acts 17:24-26).
- **For His invitation to find our deepest joy** not in the fruit of our labours, but in the fact that He has graciously written our names in heaven (Luke 10:20).

Please ask God...

- For His **comfort** as we grieve the loss of this opportunity.
- **To work through Michael** as he continues to serve at church.
- **For the safe arrival of our baby**, including a safe delivery for Rani.
- **To shepherd our hearts and guide our steps** as we consider future ministry opportunities.

*"Many are the plans in a person's heart,
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."*

Proverbs 19:21



From Michael and Rani

Say 'hello' or let us know you've prayed for us!

Financial Partnership

We can't serve in Belgium without the generosity of God's people.

If you'd like to give through financial support, please head to our [CMS giving page](#).

If you would prefer to give using a BSB and account number, please email CMS and they will send you the relevant details.

We're so thankful for your partnership with us to see a world that knows Jesus!

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people and churches committed to global mission. We work together to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our vision is for a world that knows Jesus. We aim to do this by: reaching gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equipping Christian leaders for church and society, and engaging churches in cross-cultural mission.

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