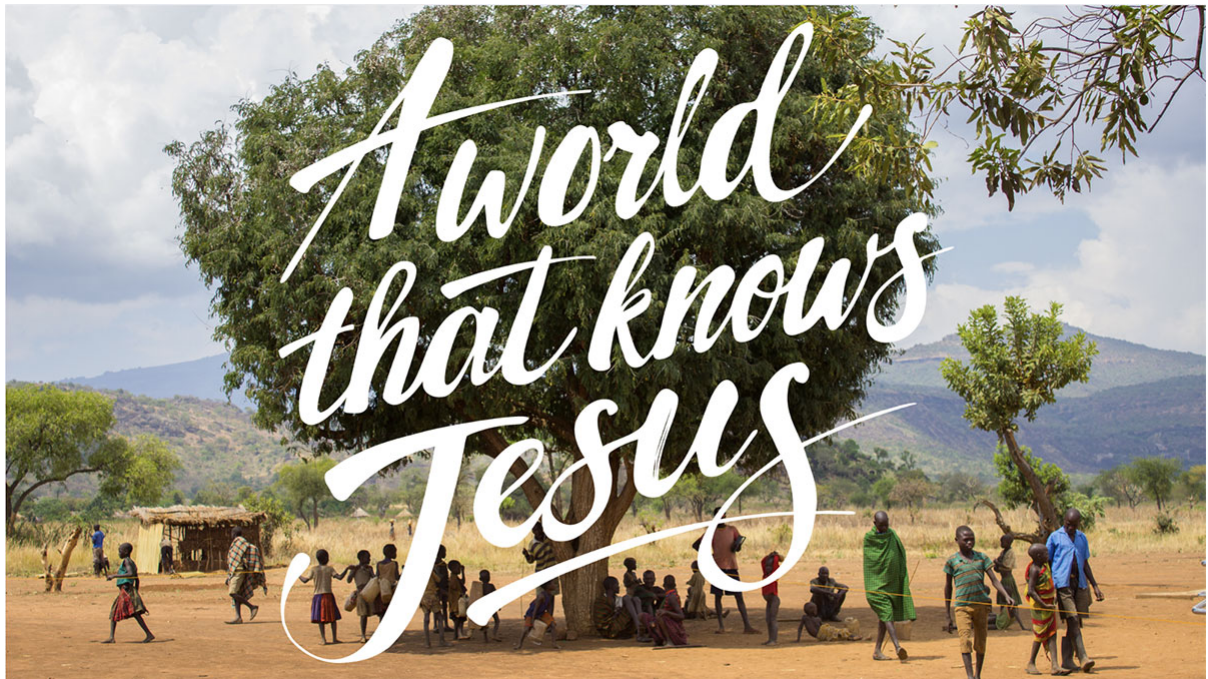




Elyard August 2026 Update



Anthony and Trudi Elyard

Serving the Lord in Ethiopia



"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things". Philippians 4:8

Dear Friends,

Thankful for Home Assignment

Home Assignment (HA) is well and truly underway. Already, there have been wonderful catch ups with family and friends (we were able to attend our niece's wedding), medical checkups and a flurry of shopping to benefit from the end-of-year sales. This is a great opportunity for us to recalibrate; however, we have only had snippets of rest and are guarding any moments we have.



Beautiful times with our grandson at Swallow Rock



Precious time reading at the library

Thankful for CMS fellowship

We are so grateful to the CMS fellowship who have provided the townhouse for us at Peakhurst after a short stint at Bonnet Bay with our friends, John and Dee. Diane and her friends from St James Turrumurra made sure the place was in tip-top condition and delivered an overabundance of delicious food. What a treat not to have to make decisions about what to buy. All of this may seem very 'every day,' but with these coordinated efforts from many people, including many from CMS offices, we have not had to worry or spend time on logistics.

We both have decision fatigue when we return. Trudi wanted to barbecue sausages, went to the butcher only to be confronted with 15 varieties, none with normal names and a queue waiting. We do laugh at ourselves as everything seems so normal and then the normal challenges us.

Thankfulness for your partnership

We would like to take the opportunity to say thank you for your prayer, encouragement, acts of kindness, wisdom, friendship and financial support. Without you all, we could not be in Ethiopia.

We were encouraged to see Susan, 95 years old, on a church visit and remembered that she prayed for Anthony, as her son's school mate, to come to know Christ.

How grateful we are that you walk beside us and for your varied prayers. We see God at work in amazing ways through you all.

One day students from EKMTTC were sent to evangelise in difficult and unreached areas. Yonas said that while he had been teaching, he had become very discouraged by two young men arguing and disrupting a meeting. Trudi sent a text of encouragement to stay firm in faith and that she and some Australians were praying for him. He read the text and was emboldened to continue. The Holy Spirit gave him the words to address these men and they suddenly quietened, listened and became believers that night. They immediately went to tell others about Jesus. Praise God!



Evening service at St James Turramurra

Thankful for wisdom of others

We are so appreciative of the wise people around us, both in Ethiopia and our RMD (CMS regional director who oversees us).

Our departure from Ethiopia was timely. The elections brought high tensions with expectations of conflict resulting in people staying at home and cars ordered off the roads. While there continues to be peace in the Dila area, the road to Addis Ababa (the city) has been dangerous with around one hundred people kidnapped for ransom. We are monitoring the situation carefully. There are continued and complex reasons for conflict in Ethiopia.

Psalms 35 may help our prayers. David cries out to God questioning why justice hasn't

been brought already. He trusts God is listening and in control of the situation, knowing God cares for those affected by conflict. And yet, David prays for his oppressors too. However, even though David didn't have answers, he praised God for his righteousness.



Mission Up Close (Ryde)



A group from St Ives came to the Mission Up Close Live event to hear 'Stories from Africa'

Thankful for partners for the gospel

We have loved getting to know you, our partners. Unfortunately, we won't be able to see all of you this time around. Our HA is split in two. Instead of visiting every church, we will see half now and the other half in two years. This was done in consultation with the branch so that we could come back to Australia more regularly.

This more regular HA schedule has meant we can be present with our family. It has always been one of the hardest things about going to Ethiopia, so we have been delighted to be able to make regular visits to our parents (Trudi's mum and dad, Anthony's mum), our children and grandchildren during our more regular HAs.

Give thanks

- For the wonderful partnerships we have with churches and individuals.
- For the many who attended the Mission Up Close Live event.
- We can spend time connecting with family and friends.
- CMS, as a fellowship, cares for their missionaries in such thoughtful and caring ways.
- Our time at Caringbah Baptist Church and St James Turrumurra.
- Yonas was able to be encouraged and young men came to faith.

Please pray

- We will present clearly at the upcoming partnership events, especially for Anthony's preaching and teaching.
- Our upcoming time partnering with Cabramatta Anglican and St Phils Caringbah.

- For time to rest and recharge after a busy time in Ethiopia, in amongst the challenges of transitioning from place to place and with no regular routine.
- The conflicts in Ethiopia will be resolved with God's justice.
- For those who have asked about the garden - there has been no rain, the water supply was cut for two weeks, and so, it is limping along. I will have to wait and see what I return to.
- As always, that we stand firm in faith, especially through the changes and little routine.

From Anthony and Trudi



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

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