

## Prayer Points from Australia no. 30

May 2025

*'Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's will that prevails' Proverbs 19:21.*

Easter has been and gone and I hope you all had a wonderful time with family while remembering our Lord's death and resurrection. The more I reflect on it, the more I see the depths of what happened on the cross is unfathomable - God on a cross, torn apart for us, and rising again to bring us to Him. Beyond comprehension and it fills me with wonderment and awe. How great is our God.

The Barbara May Foundation, the charity I work for in Australia, is going through a period of renewed strategy development and review. It's a time when we need great prayer support to discern what is best and godly as we seek to serve more women. They are all made in God's image, and we must not: *'withhold good from those who deserve, especially when it's in your power to act'* Proverbs 3:27

Please pray for:

1. Wisdom for the BMF board and team as we plan. That our plans may be God's plans.
2. God's provision to enable us to meet the need.
3. The right personnel are being prepared by God and recruited to take our plans forward.

We have many opportunities, building more hospitals, possible partnerships with other missions and mission hospitals, but it all needs the right, Christ-centered people, and God's provision.

### Ethiopia - Afar

- Val and her teams are still facing many crises. We have been able to help her organisation, APDA with more emergency food relief which is keeping thousands sustained and alive.
- People are even dying of thirst, please pray for rain.
- I was able to spend some time in Afar in March and we operated on 15 fistula patients. Dr Omer is making wonderful progress.
- Please pray for Barqi, a young girl with dreadful fistula injuries after a four-day labour and severe malnutrition. She wasn't well enough for us to operate on in March. She's slowly recovering and I hope to make a day trip to Afar in July to treat her (I'll be in Addis for a FIGO meeting and workshop). Please pray that she is well enough by then.



Halima (left) was pregnant with her first child in a remote nomadic village in the Afar desert, Ethiopia. Chronic malaria and severe malnutrition meant that she was severely anaemic and she became weaker and weaker as her pregnancy progressed. She got to the point of being unable to stand. A health worker from Val's organisation (APDA) found her, and brought her to the hospital, where she was resuscitated and fed. After some weeks, she was strong enough to deliver normally, but she bled severely afterwards. The hospital team, led by Dr Omer saved her life again, and she's now well with a lovely baby girl.



Patients in Sth Sudan waiting for their operation

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## Ethiopia - Bahir Dar

- I was able to visit Bahir Dar for the first time in over a year. It was wonderful to see the staff doing so well despite extended curfews.
- Please pray for the patients. Curfews mean that it's difficult and dangerous for patients to come in from the rural areas and coming to the hospital at night is impossible. Many are staying with relatives or friends around the hospital or staying in the hospital to be safe.

## Uganda

- Along with representatives from Sonic Healthcare Foundation (the major donor for the hospital) and BMFs General Manager, Karen Baker I was able to visit the hospital being constructed in Pader, Nth Uganda. It was a great trip, and while construction is behind schedule, it will be an enormous help for the women of the area when it opens.
- Please pray for wisdom and the right people to bring this project along more quickly.



Left, Karen (BMF) with Richard and Lindsay (Sonic) with Dr Akena, Monica and Alice (Te Kwor).  
Right, The regional Anglican bishop blessing the hospital construction.



## Tanzania.

- We had two busy fistula camps in February and April, and many patients were treated and returned to dignity. I never tire of seeing their smiles.
- Please pray for the construction of the new hospital in Chamwino. We are grateful to have the funds for the building. Please pray that things work out so construction can begin in June.
- Please also pray for the running costs of Chamwino as we will need to have those accounted for by the end of 2026 (all going well).
- Please continue to support the Goodalls in prayer as they prepare to move to Arusha with their children in August. Barney will be working in donor relations, finance and administrative support and Liz will be working as an obstetrician and fistula surgeon.

## South Sudan

- Give thanks for the recent trip to Sth Sudan and for all the women who were treated. Almost all were cured for which we are all thrilled.
- Pray for Sth Sudan as renewed tensions are causing difficulties in the country.
- Pray for the patients coming for our next fistula camp in June.

## Australia.

- As usual there's been speaking engagements in churches, schools, on radio and even a public talk about the birds of Africa (which I quite enjoyed giving). Please pray for good witness as I've been given so many opportunities.

With prayers,  
Andrew.