



## Mingalaba Newsletter #28

March 2017



Some of the members of the latest Tailoring Training class which began their programme in Tahan in January

### Dear Ricebowl Mission Supporters,

Dear Ricebowl donors,

Greeting and thanks once again for your continuing generous support for the PCANZ's mission partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar. Since we sent funding late last year we have received some feedback on progress so far. Unfortunately photos have not been very good quality so we are unable to show very much. But this is the information we have received about the following projects:

**Construction of the new accommodation for the General Secretary** is underway; foundations have been laid and good progress seems to be being made.

### **Tailoring Project**

Yet again, another well attended programme confirms the importance of these opportunities for women to develop skills that equip them for the workforce and give them a step towards independence

### **Completed Zo Synod Church building project**



Those of you who have been aware of the long-running saga of the Zo Synod church building in Kalaymyo will be pleased to know that it has now been completed – quite an achievement for the Zo Synod. It will mean a lot to this smallest of the synods in the PCM to have their own building – and here it is a nice shade of pink.



**PCM General Secretary Ling Zaw hands over the completed books for the Tedim Synod Sunday School project**

- The publication of the Sunday School material (previous photo) will contribute to greater literacy as well as aiding the members of the congregations of these synods in their worship. Rev. Zaw said that the books for Sunday lessons of other Synods will be published within this year.

- **Purchasing the land for Thantlang Pastor's House**

This has been bought and the remainder of the project, which will be funded locally, can now get underway

- **Nurse Training Scholarships**

At the time we received the feedback, the PCM was advertising for applicants for nursing training. In due course we will receive further information and will be able to give updates on the progress of the successful scholarship students.

### **Investigating New Possibilities**

In March Global Mission Coordinator Phil King will be travelling to Myanmar to meet with the PCM to review our partnership and plan further progress. One of the items of discussion will be to assess whether we can develop a position for two members of the PCANZ who have an interest in serving in Myanmar with the PCM. Wayne Harray and his wife the Rev. Helen Harray developed an interest in Myanmar through contact with Henry Van Thio and his wife Anna Hluan, who attended Helen's church in Dunedin while Anna was studying for a PhD in Theology at Otago University. To cut a long story short, we will be meeting with leaders of the PCM, and Tahan Theological College, to see if positions for Wayne, who is a civil engineer, and Helen can be negotiated. One of the biggest challenges will be getting approval for a business visa, which would allow them to live in their own accommodation. Without this, the cost of staying in Myanmar would be prohibitive. Please pray for this venture and in particular, for discernment for Wayne and Helen as they seek God's call on their lives at this time. We will be in Myanmar from March 13<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.





### **Going Global Myanmar November 2017**

Preparations are underway to lead a young adults "Going Global" programme to Myanmar in November/December 2017. This is a shared programme between Presbyterian youth Ministries and Global Mission. Advertising for this can be found here, <http://pym.org.nz/ministries/going-global/>. A limited number of more "senior" adults are welcome to apply to join this team as leaders and supporting members. If interest is high, there is an option to lead a separate team later next summer, perhaps in February 2018. Contact Phil King, [phil@presbyterian.org.nz](mailto:phil@presbyterian.org.nz) for more information.

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### **Tedim Stallroom**





The Tedim Stallroom was an income generating project to help increase the self-sufficiency of the Tedim Synod; and doubles as accommodation for their Executive Secretary. These photos show the completed building; (above) very distinctive with its new blue roof! (below) view from the road.



**Are you able to commit to supporting Rice Bowl with a weekly \$5 donation?**

Please consider contributing the cost of a cup of coffee a week to the Rice Bowl Fund and with your help we will be able to support various projects (you can check out our donation form [here](#)).

The Rice Bowl fund focuses on income generating projects, scholarships, aid relief, development projects and mission support, all in partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar.

To Invest in future projects please send donations to PCANZ Rice Bowl Fund with the [donation form](#).

Thank you very much for your generous donations and your continued support of our brothers and sisters in Myanmar.

### Engagement of Joel Tinmoe

On a personal note, this will be of interest to those who have visited TTC and had the pleasure of meeting Joel Tinmoe. We are pleased to report that Joel has become engaged to Zo Hming Liani. This is wonderful news for Joel – the wedding will take place on March 9<sup>th</sup>.



### Contact Us

Get in touch for more information on any of these stories or projects:

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