

# Rice Bowl

## MISSION



Global Mission's Myanmar Newsletter

July 2026



Above: Rev. Pek Muan Cuang, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar preaching at St. Columba at Botany Presbyterian Church, Auckland on June 21; and Leith Valley Presbyterian Church, Dunedin, on June 28. Global Mission hosted PCM General Secretary Rev. Pek Muan Cuang in New Zealand in late June. Pek was in Auckland for the Council for World Mission Annual Members Meeting, and after this Global Mission Director Phil King arranged for him to spend a few days travelling and meeting members of the PCANZ. On June 21<sup>st</sup> he preached at St. Columba at Botany, the congregation which established the Ricebowl Mission partnership; and on June 28, he preached at Leith Valley church in Dunedin. This is the congregation that Henry van Thio and his wife Anna and children attended when they lived in Dunedin, before Henry was elected to Myanmar's parliament in the 2015 democratic elections. Henry was subsequently arrested in the 2021 coup and he and Anna have spent several years under house arrest. Leith is also the church that Rev Helen and Wayne Harray attended (Helen was previously on the ministry team there) before they left to serve at the PCM's Tahan Theological College. Leith's minister Very Rev. Richard Dawson and members of the congregation visited Tahan when the Harrays were there. So both congregations have strong links and Pek was grateful to visit, preach, and express gratitude for the PCANZ's support on behalf of the PCM. Read more about Pek's visit and news of Myanmar inside. See the back page for a summary of our support for the PCM in the past two years.

Some shots of Rev. Pek Muan Cuang's visit to the PCANZ: Margaret Dewse, Rev. Caleb Hardie and Angela Norton at St. Columba at Botany Church; Ricebowl Mission supporters at St. Columba; at the PCANZ office in Wellington; Leith Valley Presbyterian Church, Dunedin; Otago University; Presbyterian Research Centre archives; with members of Dunedin's Myanmar Chin community; sharing with the children at Batch Church, Dunedin; iconic Dunedin shot at Larnach Castle. Pek has now returned home where he is helping with the PCM's support for internally displaced persons in Tahan.



With Professor David Tombs, Otago University Faculty of Theology. Pek was interested to learn about David's work in peace and reconciliation studies.



*Presbyterian Church of Myanmar Women's Secretary Hmingsangi (Sangi) is very good at communicating and reporting on projects we are supporting. Here is an example of her correspondence in February this year.*

### **Message from Vanlalmingsangi, PCM Women's Secretary, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Hello Phil and all the PCANZ members,

PWGC is moving forward by the grace of God till today. It is a great opportunity for PCM to have you especially for women department. We can move forward step by step in our ministry with a huge contribution of PCANZ. We acknowledge that PCM women are always in your heart. I would like to share you a short report of last year and what we are planning to do in the future from this year.

Miss Khin Suh Nwe from Zo Synod is still studying the nurse-aid course at Wesley Hospital and she will complete her course in 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026. In December 2025, Miss Jenny Lalchhanchhuahi has been selected to attend the nurse aid course with the fund we received from PCANZ and the fund is limited now. In August 2026, two ladies will be selected again from Victoria Synod and Maturam Synod to attend the nurse aid course. There will be no more fund left for these students. We need your prior prayer for all the course fees and monthly mess fees. The graduates are working in private clinics, Agape Hospital, Wesley Hospital and dispensary (Sub-Agape Hospital) in their own villages. They can support their families with their salaries and use their skills to those who have no treatment. One graduate student is working now in Singapore.

PWGC is planning to do to visit women from different synods (Target places: Zo Synod, Tedim Synod, Phai Synod, Chin Synod Presbytery) and give training on "the importance of Christian Family and Daily Devotion for Christian Household). This is designed to strengthen the mental and spiritual strength of our members in more than 20 places every year.

From this year onwards, PWGC is also planning to conduct an awareness campaign in each church unit on "Sexual Harassment awareness campaign and How to prevent ourselves". The book is translated into Mizo, Falam and Tedim. Target places for 2026 are 20 units of Presbyterian Women Society. In addition to all, in four places, "Trauma Healing Counseling Training" who are victims of conflict and IDPs of PCM members of women. Target Synods are Victoria Synod in two places, Falam Synod and Dairam Synod.

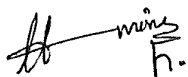
#### **- Budget estimate for PWGC ministry (2026)**

1. Nurse aid training – MMK 8,000,000/-
2. Sexual harassment awareness – MMK 5,000,000/-
3. Trauma Healing for PWS members (for conflicts zones and IDPs) – MMK 40,00,000/-

Note: Photo of the newly selected nurse aid trainee, Ms. Jenny Vanlalchhanchhuahi is attached.

We hope that God will make a way for PWGC ministry and we hope that everything is possible in Jesus Christ,

With Solidarity,



Vanlalmingsangi  
Women's Secretary (PWGC)  
General Assembly Office

Sponsored Nurse Aid student  
Jenny Vanlalchhanchhuahi



Funds for the above projects were sent in July.  
Thank you to all our donors

## Crisis Conditions Continue

It's been nearly two years since the last Mingalaba Newsletter in September 2024. It has been difficult to put information together due to the civil war in Myanmar which has affected every aspect of life for the church. Villages are subject to airstrikes and young people are being forcibly conscripted. Many are fleeing. However, we have provided support as much as possible—the information on this page summarises this. Crisis conditions are the daily norm for many of Myanmar's citizens as they endure the impacts of the civil war. Rev. Ramthanga, former General Secretary of the PCM and now a pastor in Khampat, shared this message on July 1st:

*"Hello friends, greeting from Myanmar. It has been more than 3 weeks since we fled from Khampat (where I am serving) to Tahan. The fight between the two forces seemingly gets calm down this week. Many of the civilians fled to Tahan-Kalaymyo while some more others fled to Indian border villages. We are waiting the day when we can be back. Please keep us in your prayer that we can go back home safely."* Ramthanga is seen here on the right of this photo.



Please continue to pray for Myanmar. When Rev. Pek preached here recently he thanked the congregations he visited for their faithful prayers for the PCM. This carries weight when we hear first-hand how grateful the church in Myanmar is for our solidarity and support. Read his sermon at St. Columba at Botany [here](#).

## Zoom Meetings and Situation Reports

Global Mission Director Phil King chairs the PCM Partners Roundtable Meetings which are held every few months on Zoom. In these meetings the PCM leaders share about the current conditions in Myanmar with partner churches, who coordinate their support. At each meeting the PCM prepares a situation report which provides insights into daily life for the church and its people. These reports are on the PCANZ website, with the latest one being [found here](#).

## How Have We Been Supporting the PCM in the Past Two Years?

Although normal routines have not been possible for most of the past few years since the 2021 coup and civil war, the PCM has continued in ministry in whatever ways their situation has allowed. Since the last Mingalaba newsletter in September 2024, Global Mission has sent funds totaling NZD \$57,450. Some of these funds are from donors, and some are grants from Global Mission. These funds have supported the following projects and needs:

- Community Schools \$5,000
- Nurse Aid Training \$13,000
- Earthquake recovery \$16,075
- TTC Farm development \$6,375
- PCM Assembly Land Lease \$10,000
- Trauma Healing workshops \$3,300
- Sexual Harassment Awareness workshops \$4,000



Rescue workers after the earthquake in Mandalay on March 28th 2025

The workshop costs include transport for participants and expenses for trainers, and food and accommodation costs. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our support for the PCM during these years of trial and hardship.

## TTC Newsletters

One of the projects we have consistently supported is Tahan Theological College (TTC). You can read about some of the impact of our support in [TTC newsletters here](#).

**Thank you to everyone who financially supports our partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar. Donations are always welcome and allow us to achieve more.**

**Online donations can be made to 02 0500 0086963 10. If making a new donation please send an email with contact details for receipts to [katrina@presbyterian.org.nz](mailto:katrina@presbyterian.org.nz)**

*For more information please contact Global Mission Director Phil King, [phil@presbyterian.org.nz](mailto:phil@presbyterian.org.nz)*