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21 May 2010

Dear global mission supporter

I am pleased and excited to announce that a former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, the Very Rev Pamela Tankersley, has been appointed to the role of Overseas Mission Coordinator.

Pamela's knowledge and experience of the Church, her energy and commitment to mission, and her wide network of international ecumenical contacts and relationships impressed the selection panel.

Her work will include developing and maintaining relationships with people like you, who have provided such generous support for our Church's overseas mission work. Pamela will also work with congregations and engage with our current overseas commitments. She will support our international ecumenical partnerships, particularly key relationships such as the Council for World Mission, the Uniting Church in Australia and Christian World Service.

During her two-year appointment, Pamela will provide assistance to the concurrent strategic planning process that is considering how to better integrate our mission processes with our national functions.

Pamela will be Wellington–based, which will enhance collaboration with our other Assembly office staff and provide administrative efficiencies. We look forward to welcoming her in August when she begins her new role.

God calls us to be participants in mission. We are grateful to those who keep before us this imperative to serve our brothers and sisters overseas, including staff who previously worked in global mission roles.

During the first part of this year, the Rev Chris Nichol has been working part-time in a temporary global mission role, maintaining key connections, ensuring our overseas commitments are met and consulting on the framework for our ongoing work.

You will have noticed increased coverage in our national magazine *Spanz* of global mission work, with an extra four pages each issue dedicated to the area. In the June issue, we feature Kathryn McDaniel, who is supported by the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand in her work with the inmates of Thailand's Chiang Mai prison. Other key overseas partnerships include Vanuatu, where Ken and Jenny Williams have been based for the past year and half. Their contract comes to an end in late 2010, and we have begun advertising for a replacement – see *Spanz* for more details. In our relationship with Myanmar, St Columa @ Botany Downs is taking a lead role, while the Friends of Jagadhri continue to maintain our historic relationship with North India.

If you would like to support any of our overseas mission relationships or projects, please get in touch. All donations are passed on to your intended recipient.

Yours in Christ,

Mat. Do.

Martin Baker Assembly Executive Secretary