



Praxeis Annual Report

2021/2022

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01 Our focus

MISSION

To make disciples that multiply

VISION

Praxeis is an ever-growing movement of followers of Jesus, making disciples that multiply in all the world

02 From the National Director

Well, what a year!

This year Praxeis celebrated 10 years in operation and we are so very thankful to God for all that he has done.

Emerging from COVID

Like the rest of the population, we were unsure what the world and Praxeis would look like on the other side of COVID restrictions. Yet, we knew that God is faithful and his vision is far greater than ours. We continued to meet online and practically meet the needs of our communities. And we have seen God's providential hand, over and over again.

We can now rejoice as we look back over the year and see no loss of teams or Discovery Bible Groups. In fact, we have seen remarkable growth!

In Australia, we now have workers in South Australia, the Wheat Belt of Western Australia and flying into the remote communities of far North Queensland. These have been areas we have been praying for God to open for many years. There has also been a development in our work among refugee and migrant communities in Sydney and Melbourne

Internationally, areas that we have invested in coaching are now beginning to reap the harvest as Discovery Groups begin and flourish in Myanmar, Uganda, Ukraine and the United Kingdom to name a few.

We are also seeing God introduce us to people in countries we never expected to make connections and yet, he has brought people into coaching relationships with our workers and team. We are excited to see what God will do in these places.

In all that has happened across 2021/22, we also want to recognise our wonderfully faithful donors and prayer supporters, who allow us to freely follow God's call. We are so thankful for your faithfulness and generosity.

I hope you are encouraged and inspired as you read the stories of our workers and teams in the pages that follow and consider what role God might be calling you to as we make disciples who multiply.



Dave Lawton
Praxeis National Director



03 Metrics Highlights

969

Corporate hours
of prayer per
week

68

Teams

304

Discovery Groups
and Churches

1890

People discovering
God in DBS

358

Workers

2427

People in the
Praxeis movement

26,000

new disciples and
1300+ churches
in India





04 Praxeis Locations

NATIONS WHERE WE HAVE TEAMS

Australia
New Zealand
South East Asia
United States
Singapore

Hungary
Malawi
Hong Kong
India

NATIONS WHERE WE ARE DEVELOPING LEADERS

Uganda
United Kingdom
PNG
Japan
Romania

Ukraine
Nepal
Malaysia
Taiwan

PROJECTED WORKS

Ethiopia
Fiji

Central Asia

05 Reaching Australia

We continue to push into regions across Australia with our vision to see disciples made across all states, cities, towns and communities. The way we do this is different in every location as we look to see where God is already at work.

Here are a few highlights from around the country.

REACHING REFUGEES

We know Jesus calls us to join with his heart for the poor and vulnerable and the Afghan team in Melbourne's southeast carry a vision to see disciple-making happen among Afghan refugees.

The team are building relationships by providing practical help in the community. They delivered parcels during Eid (the Islamic holiday) and food hampers at Eid al-Fitr (the end of Ramadan) to bless the Islamic communities.

Through this outreach, one Afghan man told them, "This is probably the kindest gesture that anyone ever gave me." As connections are made, team members are welcomed into homes to drink tea, pray and share Bible stories.



READY TO GROW

After 10 years serving in Sydney, the Pyman family has moved back to their hometown, Melbourne, to serve the wider vision of the organisation. However, the seeds they planted in Sydney during this time continue to grow.

Nazar is an Iraqi 'Chaldean' Catholic who has a deep passion for the needy. After building a friendship with Andrew Pyman, a Discovery Bible Study was soon gathering in Nazar's home.

It became clear that Nazar wasn't the only one in the group who carried a passion for this Iraqi community. His friend Sanaa was also trying to start Bible studies in her own Iraqi 'Assyrian' Orthodox network. God had answered Andrew's previous prayers for inside leaders through these two key Iraqi insiders.

Andrew started to coach Nazar and Sanaa by asking them what the barriers were for the gospel to spread among their own people. Andrew then helped Nazar and Sanaa form scripture sets that have allowed them to create bridges for traditional Christian Iraqis to discover how to become disciples.

Andrew continues to coach Nazar and Sanaa as they carry a vision for what they call an 'injl inteshar' (gospel movement). Five groups have been birthed through Nazar and his connections since he first met Andrew.

OUT OF THE CITY

The Perth team continues to grow as the vision of disciple-making takes root in the west. As the team expands so does their vision, not just for Perth, but for the entire state.

Rowan and Annika du Boulay, along with their young family, are stepping out into the region of the Great Southern Wheatbelt in southwest Western Australia (WA). Following existing connections, they are learning that God has already been at work in this part of the state.

Annika's 'Auntie Ruth' had already begun sowing God's word into a group of women from her town of Gnowangerup. Annika and Rowan have shared the Discovery Bible Study method with this group, including several Indigenous women, who now share scripture with their families.

As Rowan and Annika share God's vision widely and bring encouragement to remote farming communities, hope is being stirred in farming families who face many challenges.

"There are so many empty church buildings in these regional places. The need for these farming families and towns is for vibrant spiritual communities. Our vision is for these people to awaken again and rediscover Jesus." - Rowan du Boulay



ENTERING NEW PLACES

For years, we've been praying for workers to be planted in South Australia and there did not seem to be any breakthrough ... until this year. We are excited by the commitment of the Wong family to move across the country to share their lives and God's love in Victor Harbour.

After being a part of the Regional Victoria team for 18 months, Jerry and Katie were asking God where he wanted them.

When they learnt there were no Praxeis workers in South Australia, Katie immediately felt God say, 'That's where you are going next.' Four months after an initial scouting trip Katie, Jerry, four kids and their dog, 'Theo', are now living and working in Victor Harbour, SA.

Jerry is working as a GP in a local practice and in an Aboriginal medical service. Katie is connecting with local mums through school, swimming and soccer.

They are praising God for the way that he has opened doors in Victor Harbour and are currently focused on building prayer and connections in the region.

FIFO DISCIPLE-MAKING

With a heart and God-given vision for the communities of Far North Queensland and Torres Strait Islands, Steve and Mel Behrens set out to raise financial and prayer support for regular fly-in fly-out (FIFO) opportunities for these remote communities.

God provided the funds for this project through the generosity of wonderfully faithful donors and soon the flights began. The first flight left Atherton on Tuesday 27th July 2021, and Steve and Adrian (the pilot) have since been flying fortnightly into remote communities.

On an average trip, the pair fly into Kowanyama, sleep the night there in whatever accommodation the locals provide and then fly to Pormpuraaw the next morning. They have been amazed to see that God has already been at work in these communities and is paving the way.

"Whenever we land, we sit outside the council chambers under the mango tree. On this last trip, there was a line of people waiting to talk to us and to pray. Many people said that there was a reason we were coming to the town. The locals know that God has sent us."

- Steve Behrens

On one visit, Steve and Adrian decided to attend the local footy game to look for People of Peace. On arrival, the coach, Joe*, a local, non-believer, looked at Steve and asked why he was there. Steve shared that he came to help people discover the real God.

After the football game, Joe found Steve and asked him to pray for the footy team. This team was rough, known for being out of control, always losing, constantly fighting and often injured. At the beginning of 2021, Joe felt prompted to pray to 'the God who created this earth' for help for this team. Over time, Joe led the whole team to pray. Sometime after, things started to change - the fighting stopped and the injuries ceased. The team started to win games and even made the Grand Final!

Since that first meeting with Joe, Steve and Adrian spend time with him on every visit. Joe is open, he is hungry and he shares. The prayer continues and now involves other teams. Starting a Discovery Group with this mob is the next step after the team members suggested to Joe that they all should start reading the Bible together.



STARTING GROUPS FROM THE WORKPLACE IN OUTBACK QUEENSLAND

After meeting Niki at work in Emerald, Paula quickly realised that she was spiritually hungry. So Paula invited Niki to do a simple Discovery Bible Study (DBS) together.

As Niki explored the Bible, she immediately saw how God was encouraging her to share with others. Without delay, Niki started to invite others to read the Bible with her. A couple of ladies said yes.

Within a few weeks, Niki was running a DBS group in her own home which continued to grow week by week. Each time the group gathered, Niki would encourage different people to take the lead and ask the Discovery questions. Niki learnt so much as she saw people grapple with the Bible and Discovery process.

Paula reflects on how empowering people early in the exploration of God gives them the courage to look for hungry people straight away. This group has since stopped meeting but Niki continues to share boldly wherever she goes.

Niki's main learning from this experience is to be courageous in reaching out to others. She says, 'You never know who is hungry. So be bold and sow seeds of hope and see where they land. You never know, you may soon have a group running!'



06 International Growth



Our international work continues to rapidly expand as God sends us in directions we never dreamed of. People in countries around the world are catching the vision of disciple-making and serving communities to bring about God's love. Some of these people are in communities and regions experiencing great hardship and pain.

SRI LANKA

The people of Sri Lanka have experienced significant hardship in recent years, with major economic upheaval, civil war and general community unrest. However, despite these challenges, God continues to reach in to communities and families to provide love and hope. Disciple-makers, Dharshi and Ranjith*, have seen first-hand how God can change lives.

In 2020, a 12-year-old girl called Vani attended the funeral of a young friend from a Hindu village. The friend's name was Shani and she had tragically passed away from bone cancer. Vani listened closely to the story of how Shani had encountered Jesus, led her family to Him and witnessed in her village.

In that moment, Vani was intrigued to also know more about this Jesus. So she approached Dharshi and Ranjith.



Vani and her family now meet regularly with Dharshi and Ranjith, who are discipling them. They read the Bible and pray together. The seeds for the spreading of the gospel across this village have been planted in this household.

On her birthday earlier this year, Vani invited 20 of her friends to celebrate and hear about Jesus. Each of the children also brought along their parents. This very poor family shared cake and biscuits with their neighbours who also heard about how Jesus was changing their lives.

Today, Vani dreams of seeing each of her friends' families discover how Jesus can change their lives too.

Dharshi and Ranjith are also providing emergency food to over 20 families in the community. Some of these families are in Vani's village. Many of these homes are becoming softer to receiving support and Christian visitors, with some starting to ask why Dharshi, Ranjith and the team are helping them.

* Not their real names.

INDIA

COVID has devastated India, with many workers and members in the Disciple-Making Movement dying of the virus or losing family members. On top of this, many are facing persecution in the form of beatings and imprisonment because of their newfound faith. Yet, even in the face of such hardship, people are meeting Jesus in wonderful ways as God's message spreads through friends and families.

Priya*, a disciple-maker from South India, experienced the heartbreak of losing her husband to COVID. Before his death, Priya and her husband had been engaging with a nearby village for many years, building relationships with the people who predominately work as rat catchers. The work of the villagers means they are often ostracised by others in the wider community.

While life as a widow and single mother is extremely challenging in India, God has called Priya to re-engage with the rat-catchers' village to see movement among this people group.

In order to engage with the village, Priya first needed permission from the village elders, which would usually be very difficult because of her status as a widow. Yet, the elders blessed her!

Priya met Rani, a woman in deep despair after losing her 8-year-old daughter when a wall of their family home collapsed on her. Priya was able to sit with Rani, listen to her story and identify with her desperate grief and share the simple hope of Jesus.



Enjoying the visits with Priya and listening to the stories of Jesus, Rani is discovering a new hope for her life and is keen to tell others what she has discovered.

Using her hairdressing and beauty skills, Rani shares the stories and hope she has found in Jesus with other ladies in the village. The gospel is spreading, bringing deep hope and healing.

UKRAINE

The team in Hungary have been trying for many years to connect to Ukraine; however, they continued to face barriers, including the COVID restrictions over the last couple of years. While the outbreak of war in the country has been devastating, God has brought Ukraine to Hungary.

The mass exodus of thousands of people from Ukraine since earlier this year has included many Hungarian gypsy families who have fled their home villages near the border with Hungary. These families want to go back to Ukraine but are waiting for the war to end.

Since the beginning of the war, the Praxeis team has been intentionally offering practical help to many gypsies fleeing Ukraine. They have organised accommodation, visas, food, medicine, hygiene items and toys for the children.

During the Hungarian summer months, the team have also been serving these displaced families through what they call 'Love Projects'. Over 100 days, the team visited houses and communities of gypsy people in Hungary and Ukraine, feeding over 1000 people. They delivered emergency food parcels and offered to pray and encourage the sick and vulnerable.

As they did this, many people of peace were found, with invitations extended to the Praxeis team to visit again, even back in their hometowns and villages of Ukraine after the war.

Working through the connections of two key leaders, the team are intentionally reaching out spiritually as they identify many families who are open to Jesus. Five Discovery Groups have started with the groups saying they want to take 'this teaching' back to their villages after the war.

The team are anticipating seeing a movement spark back into Ukraine through these open families who will return to their homes after the war.



SINGAPORE

During the 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting, the Singaporean team asked God to give them a breakthrough of workers in Asia.

In this time of prayer, God connected Scott (Team Leader) and the Singaporean Praxeis team with a Nepalese couple hungry to be on mission.

This couple came along to the Praxeis Asia Hub to be part of training and prayer. While Scott was excited to see this couple's passion for disciple-making, Nepal had not been on the Singapore teams' radar. So Scott referred them to groups and people with a focus on the Nepalese.



NEW ZEALAND

Also in the time of 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting, the New Zealand team saw their team grow. More people joined the team to pray as they prayer-walked multiple towns and cities across the country.

As prayer multiplied, new training opportunities also opened up. These became significant events that have seen more and more people being catalysed into various disciple-making works.

As part of this, the team were excited to make new connections with people of peace. These new contacts have networks across the whole of New Zealand and into the Pacific Islands. Two different people groups are now part of ongoing training in disciple-making.

One new training is with Fijian leaders in New Zealand. Those attending have a passion for seeing disciple-making happen among their own people locally and in Fiji.

However, the couple kept pursuing Scott for help in their disciple-making journey. So Scott and his wife, Sarah, began coaching them in Disciple-Making Movements.

In April 2022, Scott was able to visit Nepal to meet with the couple - and he soon realised that a team had formed around them. He saw firsthand how the team was praying together and had already started Discovery Groups among their youth and young adult community.

Scott has learned to be ready to respond to God's unexpected answers to his prayers.

MALAWI

This year, the Parker family moved to Malawi. After packing up and saying goodbye to the Middle East, they are now pioneering in this brand-new context.

They are asking God to share more of his heart for Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world. The Parkers carry a deep passion to make disciples among these people.

As the family settle in, they are looking for God to give them the right connections as they ask him to show them where to live and focus their work.



MYANMAR

Myanmar is in the middle of an economic collapse with hundreds of thousands of people displaced due to the military coup that began in February 2021. Civil war now rages with civilian militia groups forming to fight against the military junta.



Despite this, we praise God for the 20 Discovery Bible Study groups meeting across the country, with 7 new groups beginning in various regions through our leader, Aung and his teams. There are continual reports of new believers and new baptisms each month.



It is exciting to hear of everyone in these groups learning to lead and share. This is a significant cultural shift for many who traditionally would not usually feel empowered to lead in this context.

Accessing rural areas in Myanmar is near impossible due to the coup. Many people are unable to travel due to the military junta continuing to burn villages and the rise of the anti-junta militia groups. One of our leaders tells us that 'only the city is safe'. This makes DMM training, multiplication of workers and starting new Discovery Bible Studies very hard as most of the areas are cut off - even from phone and mobile data.

However, Aung and the team are currently producing online Disciple-Making Movement resources in the local language (Burmese) for leaders as well as simple resources for disciples to multiply groups wherever they live.



07 Praxeis Finances

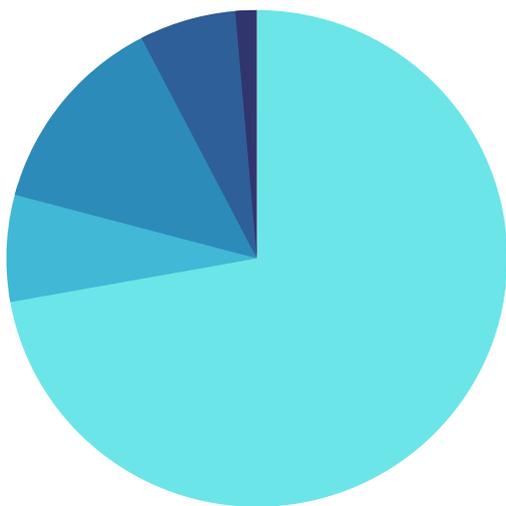
WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS PROVISION

We praise God once again for his provision through 2021 and 2022.

Over the course of the year, we saw a significant increase in giving to specific projects such as the fly-in fly-out outreach to remote communities in Far North Queensland. The generosity of our supporters and donors continues to astound us.

We also saw a rise in our expenditure on events and travel. This is another praise point! After so much time not being able to meet together due to COVID restrictions, it has been wonderful to see our teams come together again.

INCOME



Gifts to supported workers: \$1,103,473

Gifts to ministry funds and projects: \$106,183

Grants: \$202,531

General donations: \$95,450

Other: \$21,069

Total income: \$1,528,760

Payments to workers: \$1,112,239

Support staff salary: \$40,059

Projects & ministry expenses: \$92,001

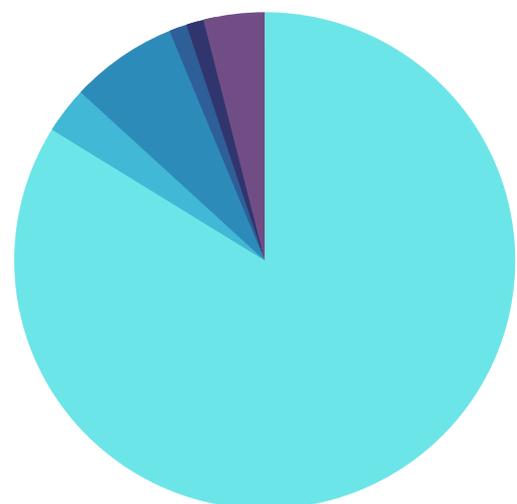
Conference and events: \$15,212

Travel: \$14,946

Other: \$52,250

Total expenditure: \$1,326,202

EXPENDITURE



08 Board Renewal

MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

As Praxeis hits our 10th year in operation, the Board has been reformed with new Directors. We are focussed on building upon a foundation that the previous 10 years have laid.

We welcomed new board members: Penny Robinson, Wayne Ngo, Graham Wilson and Brian Medway to the team. We look forward to working together as we follow God's leading and his plans for Praxeis.

MEET WAYNE NGO

My passion is to see people grow in their faith in God.

My hope for Praxeis is that we will continue to reach communities with God's message of hope.

Looking forward with Praxeis, I am excited about the next phase of growth and seeing God's work being fulfilled.



MEET GRAHAM WILSON

My passion is mission and fully living out my part in the Great Commission, and seeing others do likewise.

My hope for Praxeis is that it will be a vehicle through which this passion will be powerfully realised.

Looking forward with Praxeis, I am excited by the training mobilisation of ordinary people to make disciples who make disciples and seeing that multiplied as we intentionally pray, live and go!



MEET BRIAN MEDWAY

My passion is to see movements in every corner of this nation that will involve multiplying churches so filled with power and love from heaven that no stronghold will be enough to withstand their advance.

My hope for Praxeis is that it would continue to pioneer the goal of catalysing movements. My prayer is that every group of believers would rekindle their love for lost people and become partners in seeing the great commission fulfilled.

Looking forward, I am excited by the strong but flexible structure God has been building across the organisation so that it will become a wineskin for new wine.



MEET PENNY ROBINSON

My passion is ... Jesus. I love being with Jesus and pointing others to Him. More specifically, my heart is for the overlooked, the 'powerless' and those who our society says has failed. I love pointing those who the world says are unlovable to Jesus!

My hope for Praxeis is to remain centred around Jesus, focused on prayer, dependent on the Holy Spirit and seeking to follow and obey.

I'm excited by the bold, yet simplistic plan of Praxeis to see everyone, everywhere fall in love with Jesus - praying, following and obeying Him across this nation and the world. I am also keen to see all of us 'stuff ups' and misfits find Jesus and be part of what He is doing.





09 Board Chair Report

INTO OUR NEXT DECADE

It has been an immense privilege to take on the role of Board Chair, after Toby Hall's 10-year tenure.

As you have read in these pages, it is clear that God is using Praxeis in his mission plan for the world, and our job is simply to try and keep up with Him. Praxeis is a living testament to God's ever-expanding vision.

To ensure that Praxeis is in the best place to do this, one of our key focus areas is the strengthening of our internal systems and leadership structure. It will come as no surprise to anyone that we are living in highly volatile times and it is incumbent on us to maintain a high level of governance so that we can confidently embrace whatever God calls Praxeis to.

The challenge and responsibility of the Board is to ensure that the governance and statutory compliance requirements for Praxeis activities are effectively met, especially as Praxeis moves into new places and people groups.

The commitment and vision of our workers is undeniable and their passion to make disciples, who make disciples continues to hold as true in this next phase as it did when Praxeis first formed.



As Praxeis enters into our second decade with anticipation for what God will do, we again want to thank you for your support and commitment to the work of Praxeis.

To its very core, Praxeis remains an organisation of everyday, ordinary people who were and are obedient to Jesus's call 'to go into all the world'. Workers, prayers and supporters alike, our sole purpose remains - to make disciples who multiply.

Sue Ash AO
Praxeis Board Chair



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