



Paul Clayton

Bali, Indonesia

Partner Church - The Protestant Christian Church in Bali

About Bali

Three decades ago, the Balinese economy was still largely dependent upon agriculture. Now, due to globalisation, tourism is the island's single largest industry. This cosmopolitan shift has demanded new skills from the Balinese people who are leaving the fields to become waiters and managers in the continually expanding hospitality industry.

Indonesia is the largest Muslim nation on earth, yet the small island of Bali represents a legacy that goes back to pre-Islamic times when Hindu kings ruled the archipelago. The majority of the Balinese population practise a form of Hinduism and Christians are a minority.

About Paul

Paul is a UnitingWorld Experience volunteer from Hope Valley, South Australia. Recently retired, after spending 42 years in the research and IT industries, Paul has decided to pursue his growing passion for teaching. Paul has worked as a computing skills teacher at TAFE, as well as a private English tutor, and has been encouraged to use his teaching skills in a cross cultural environment. Paul's recent completion of the Teachers of English to Students of Other Languages course was one of many experiences where Paul has felt God equipping him for this particular placement.

Paul is assisting students at the Dhyana Pura Tourism Training Centre and Management College in improving their English language skills. Paul is committed to mutual sharing and is looking forward to being immersed in, and learning from, the Balinese culture.

The Project

Bali's thriving tourism industry has propelled the city into the global community and created numerous employment opportunities for the Balinese people in the tourism and hospitality industries. Hospitality skills and proficiency in the English language are vital to achieving employment in these sectors.

The Protestant Christian Church in Bali is working to meet these social needs, and has created the Dhyana Pura Tourism Training Centre and Management College to provide students with the hospitality skills necessary to work in the industry. However, the college needs an increased capacity to achieve their goals. Paul is assisting the college as a short-term English tutor, working with students and staff at the college to strengthen their grasp of the English language.



Experience Program



Our Church Partner

The Protestant Christian Church in Bali, known as the Gereja Kristen Protestan di Bali (GKPB), was established in 1931 amongst great Balinese-Hindu opposition. Although ecumenical progress has been made, much religious tension continues today.

The GKPB is the biggest Christian church in Bali, with aims not only to spread God's love to the not only to the cities, but also to all villages and regions. An important social ministry is in the field of tourism. In 1987 the GKPB opened a hospitality training school. The church's training course emphasises ethical questions, justice issues and the dignity and value of human beings, both the served and the serving.

Despite the challenges that face the GKPB, the commitment of its members to spreading God's love to the Balinese people remains strong. In 2009, the Church was blessed with about 40 new members being baptised into its congregations.

Paul's Australian Support

Paul is being prayerfully supported by his local congregation at Tea Tree Gully Uniting Church. UnitingWorld is also delighted to facilitate his important work.

Your financial and prayerful support will assist Paul in increasing the capacity of our Church partner in Bali.

Prayer Points

- Wisdom, patience and discernment for Paul as he assists the hospitality students and experiences the Balinese culture.
- That God will provide Paul with safety and strength as he undertakes this placement.
- That relationships between the Protestant Christian Church in Bali and the Uniting Church of Australia will continue to grow and be

Contact UnitingWorld

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