

Hallyburton's news from the Centre

with Topher & Chica Hallyburton • June 2025



Banner Image: Alice Springs graffiti

Circle Image: Topher & Chica

Middle Image: Topher & Chica at Kings Canyon

Bottom Image: The Ilparpa claypans

Werte tjina ntjaarra (Hello dear friends). We have been learning together from the book of Proverbs at church. It has been a time of growth as we reflect on power, speech and relationships.

In all these areas, as well as others, we are learning together to *trust in the Lord with all our heart. Not leaning on our own understanding, but in all our ways seeking his will and waiting on him to show what path to take* (Proverbs 3:5–6 NLT).

In exciting news, 19 years since the last SU camp in Central Australia, Topher led a youth SU camp in the April school holidays. It was an encouraging time hearing from God's Word, singing, forming friendships through games and exploring the bush around Ross River. We are thankful for the team of leaders that came from six different churches in Alice Springs, and especially grateful to Ben Staunton from Connect NT, who came down from Darwin to share God's Word.

Straight after the SU camp, we took some time off and explored a few places in Central Australia with friends. Kings Canyon with our friend Jenny from Darwin, as well as the Ewaninga rock carvings and the Ilparpa claypans with Hannah from Alice Springs. It is a joy to share in God's creation with good friends.

As we share some of our recent comings and goings, **please pray with us that God will continue to show us the path to take.**

Topher's Western Arrernte learning has stalled. The short introductory course at the language centre gave

him some tools to work with, but there are limited opportunities to use the little he has learned.

Now and then he has recognised a word in other people's conversations at the shops, but some of the people we are sharing with at church have been Ngaanyatjarra, Walpiri or Alyawarra speakers.

Pray for both Topher and our local CMS worker, Maggie, as they seek God's wisdom in this area.

Sadly, visits to the juvenile detention centre have come to a stop.

The NT Government has changed how it runs youth justice, meaning any young person from Central Australia is flown to the detention centre in Darwin.

This has also affected some of the *alternative to custody* arrangements in town. It has been frustrating to say the least.

Now and then, Topher will meet a young person he knows in the streets, at the shops or at the local court (conveniently only a block away from church).

Pray for wisdom in these on-the-spot ministry opportunities.

Some of these encounters are sad. Some of them bring joy. Some of them end with God's Word and prayer. Some don't.



Topher with the MMM team

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Ask God to create more opportunities to share with these young people. Ask that existing relationships will grow.

One thing that has brought much encouragement is the visit of Mobile Mission Maintenance. Stew, Murray, Rose and Daphne have moved the work along on the old rectory building.

It has been a busy two weeks, but the kitchen is now fully installed and ready to go.

The addition of BCA Nomads George & Cheryl meant more painting has been done as well!

We are so thankful for their partnership in the Gospel in this practical way.

Please pray for us as we seek new ways to use this ministry building.

We would love to see it used often and in ways that grow God's Kingdom.

What's coming up around Alice:

Chica and Kath Slack are organising a live stream of the Equip Women's conference. For the last few years, we have had several women from different churches attend. **Pray that it will be an encouraging day.**

We will have some time on leave in July. **Ask God for rest after a busy period.**

In August, we will have our church camp. We are thankful for and looking forward to sharing with brothers and sisters from Trinity Church Unley as they support this yearly event.



Hiking in Kings Canyon

**Yours in Christ's service,
Topher & Chica**

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