



APWM
Australian Presbyterian
World Mission

So, you've received an email asking you to help an overseas church...



We've all received them. Those unsolicited emails from someone claiming to be an overseas Christian or representing an overseas church in need. Sometimes they want money. Sometimes it's even Bibles. What should you do?

1. Exercise a great deal of caution. The email you received may have been sent to 30-40 other people that day. We are very trusting people, especially when people use words like 'brother' and 'sister' and 'gospel'. It's a sad thing to say but don't take things on face value.

2. Do your basic homework. Google the church. Google the sender. Go to Google maps and look at Street View. Is there a church building there? Sometimes these emails are scams sent out by non-existent churches because they know that overseas Christians can be 'an easy touch'. And they really know how to pull at the heart strings!

3. If you decide to help, then where will you send the money? What guarantee do you have that the money will end up where you think it will be going? How do you know it's not going into a private bank account? One church I know of poured \$100,000 into a non-existent church in India because they failed to do some basic checks.

4. In July 2019 the Australian Government's 'Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission' (ACNC) released a set of criteria (External Conduct Standards) that set out certain things that churches and organisations should do if they send money, people or resources overseas. The average congregation doesn't have the resources and expertise to meet the ACNC's External Conduct Standards.

So what's the alternative? Work with a mission group like APWM or Pioneers or Wycliffe or SIM etc. They have experience in this area and have procedures and checks in place to minimise the risk of something going wrong. Sometimes people think that sending money or something like Bibles overseas is simple. It's not. Late last year APWM sent 9,000 Nuer-language Bibles to the 100,000 South Sudanese Presbyterians in the refugee camps in western Ethiopia. Sounds simple? It was quite complicated.

The reality is that we should check each request that comes our way. Work with groups that you know and have experience in working overseas.

APWM CHRISTMAS CATALOGUE 2020

This Christmas why not give gifts to your family and friends and at the same time help someone who doesn't have the basics that we take for granted? The items below can provide for the needs of Christians and others in our Overseas Partner Churches.



EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE (ETHIOPIA) A gift of \$10 will assist the Presbyterian Church of Ethiopia in the education of children from disadvantaged communities.

TRAINING CONFERENCE EXPENSES (TIMOR LESTE) A gift of \$20 will assist in sending a team from Australia to run a training conference for pastors and other leaders in Timor Leste.

TRAINING for Vijai Tagore (INDIA) A gift of \$25 will assist in training Vijai Tagore, a theological lecturer from India, as he studies for his PhD at Christ College from 2019 onwards.

APWM ABORIGINAL MINISTRY (AUSTRALIA) A gift of \$30 will assist in supporting Rick and Kayleen Manton in training and supporting Aboriginal ministry workers in Australia.

PRISON MINISTRY (MALAWI) A gift of \$30 will purchase much-needed blankets and other living essentials for prisoners in Malawi who live in very difficult conditions.

BIBLE TRANSLATION (TIMOR LESTE) A gift of \$40 will assist in the ongoing translation of the Bible into Tetun, the national language of Timor Leste.

TRAINING FOR REFUGEE PASTORS (ETHIOPIA) A gift of \$50 will assist in providing a short training program for South Sudanese pastors in a refugee camp in Ethiopia.

APWM CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE 2020 ORDER FORM

HOW IT WORKS

1. Choose the item(s) on our list that you would like to purchase for your friends/family.
2. Send us your order, including payment. Please note that these gifts are **NOT tax deductible**.
3. We will send you the cards you have ordered. You are then free to give these cards to your friends/family for Christmas. The cards state which gift(s) you have purchased, on their behalf, for someone in one of our Partner Churches or for APWM Aboriginal ministry. There is no monetary value printed on the card.
4. APWM then sends the money to our overseas partners to purchase items locally, or uses it for APWM ministry as specified in Australia.

ORDER FORM/PAYMENTS

Complete this order form and send it with your payment (cheque or money order made out to 'APWM'). Please DO NOT send cash. Payment can also be made via Direct Deposit (details below) (www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance).

Bank: Westpac
Account Name: Australian Presbyterian World Mission
BSB: 032 260
Account #: 151207

For Direct Deposits, please write your name in the description box and send an email informing us of your deposit (finance@apwm.org.au). All order forms should be mailed to:

APWM Christmas Catalogue
1 Clarence Street,
Burwood NSW 2134



| Item | Qty | Cost |
|--|-----|------|
| Educational Assistance (ETHIOPIA) \$10 | | |
| Training Conference Expenses (Timor Leste) \$20 | | |
| Training for Vijai Tagore (INDIA) \$25 | | |
| Aboriginal Ministry (Rick & Kayleen Manton) \$30 | | |
| Prison Ministry (Malawi) \$30 | | |
| Bible Translation (Timor Leste) \$40 | | |
| Refugee Pastor Training (Ethiopia) \$50 | | |
| Total | | |

- ☐ I enclose a cheque / money order for \$_____ or
- ☐ I have made a Direct Deposit of \$_____
- ☐ Please tick here if you do not wish to receive cards and simply want to make a donation for these items.

Please note that if any item is over-subscribed then the money will be allocated to a similar need.

Name

Address

Suburb Postcode

Phone Email