

Mission & Outreach

We encourage you this week to pray for **United Mexican States, Latin America**

Geography

Area: 1,958,201 sq km

Latin America's third largest country. Wide range of topography and rainfall ranging from arid northern plateau, central volcanic plateau and the southern mountains and rain forests. Only 10% of the country is arable.

Population: 110,645,154

Annual Growth: 0.99%

Capital: Mexico City

Urbanites: 77.8%

Peoples: 317 (4% unreached)

Official language: Spanish; the world's largest Spanish-speaking nation

Languages: 297



Largest Religion: Christian			
Religion		Pop %	Ann Gr
Christians	105,143,877	95.03	1.0
Evangelicals	9,166,346	8.3	3.8

Answer to Prayer

There is a steady growth of evangelicals, who were only 2.1% (800,000) in 1960, but are now over 8% and numbering over nine million. If anything, such growth appears to be accelerating, not slowing.

Challenge for Prayer

Mexico is a growing nation that is still discovering its own identity. Meso-American origins, Hispanic history and a dynamic but turbulent relationship with its neighbours all shape Mexico profoundly. This search often manifests itself through religious identity (both animist and Catholic) and the inevitable accompanying anti-Protestant sentiment. Pray that Mexicans, both indigenous and mestizo, might find their ultimate identity and destiny in the love of Christ and the purposes of God.

Please see <http://www.operationworld.org> for more.

VERSE FOR THE WEEK (NKJV)

Mark 16: 1-5 "When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed."

Today's Service

Worship: DY	Communion: Abri	Translators: Ann/Joy Z
Greeters: Joanne Yin/Simon/Michael/Emily		Reader: Alison F/George
SS Little Lambs:	Teresa/Joy G	Judy/Lily B
Kids for Christ:	Angela/Michelle	Maria/Jing
Bible Explorers:		



Knowing Jesus More and Making Him Known

Weekly Bulletin
Sunday 1st Apr 2018



Worship Service

9 am & 11 am

"The Resurrection of Jesus Christ"

Preacher: Abri Brancken

Scripture: Mark 16: 1-7

Pre-Service Prayer at 8:30 am in lounge, 10:30am in Pastor Abri's office— all welcome

**Prayer Meeting every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7 pm
8 Apr & 22 Apr**

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WELCOME TO MAIRANGI BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH (MBCC)

If this is your first time worshipping with us, please go to the Welcome Corner after the service. We have a small gift for you & will gladly answer your questions about our church. MBCC is an intentionally multi-cultural church and welcomes and celebrates all languages & cultures. 我们是一个多元文化的教会，欢迎中国朋友参加。どの国の方も大歓迎します。

If you would like to hear a Chinese or Japanese translation, please ask for a headset
如果您需要听中文翻译可以向服事人员要一个耳机

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST

In 1 Peter 2:21-25 we read, "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to him who judges righteously; and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls."

The purpose of the death of Jesus was to enable us to live differently, to live like Christ. He suffered for us, even unto death, so that we might follow in his steps of living a righteous life before God, loving the Father with all of our hearts. By shedding His blood on the cross, Jesus took the punishment we deserve and offered us His righteousness. When we trust Christ for our salvation, essentially, we are making a trade. By faith, we trade our sin and its accompanying death penalty for His righteousness and life. God unleashed His wrath on His Son so that we might be spared that awful fate. This is the central message of the cross and the reason for our hope: God forsook His Son so that He might never forsake us. At this time of the year we focus on God's wrath and punishment passing us by because of what Jesus did. Take time and think about this... What are you doing with this great gift God has given us? May the cross of Christ become a greater reality to all of us at MBCC.

God bless you

Pastor **Abri Brancken**



Want to get to know more about us?
Please visit our website www.mairangichurch.org.nz
You'll find our weekly bulletin there; learn more about our Life Groups and ministries; watch our sermons and much more.

NEWS & EVENTS

Life Group Leader Meeting – today, 12.40 pm

All Life Group Leaders please stay after the second service. There will be a meeting in the lounge for group review and feedback.

Church Prayer Meeting

Twice a month church prayer meeting will be held at 7.00 pm on **8th Apr** and **22th Apr**. All are welcome and you can pray in your mother tongue.

Welcome New Comers

The last Sunday of each month, we will have a short welcome meeting downstairs for the new comers, so if you came to our church recently, please stay after the service. Let's know each other more. Life Group Leaders and Welcome Team please also take part in. This month will be on **29th Apr**.

School Break – 13th Apr ~ 27th Apr

All groups, classes and Children's Sunday School will have a break during the school holidays and all will resume from the first week of May.

KO & Stella

One of the missionary families supported by us, the Okudairas will be returning from Japan for a period of 6 months on home leave. Stella and KO will be visiting our church on the **15th April** and again on the **22nd April** when KO will be preaching. Please look out for them in April – they work in a very needy nation and their work is deeply valued.

If anyone knows of a house available for short term rental please also advise the church office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Church Office:** 09 478-6314, Email: office@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Leading Pastor, Abri Brancken:** 027 2104730, Email: abri@mairangichurch.org.nz
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- **Japanese Ministry Leaders, Joji & Chihiro Kami,** 0278048702 joji@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Church Administrator, Ann Yao :** 021 2322009, Email: ann@mairangichurch.org.nz
- **Children's Ministry Leader, Maria Zhao:** 021 1072918, Email: zbmria39@gmail.com

PRAYER "and pray for one another"

James 5:16b. Please visit the Prayer Wall. Leave prayers, answers to prayer or testimonies. Remember to pray for these today and throughout the week.

GIVE THANKS FOR

- **Mike Webster**, who has been back safely from his one month journey in China.

PRAY FOR

- **New comers** who may find welcomed and spiritually enriched among us. For those haven't know the Lord yet may encounter the Saviour and receive the salvation from the Lord Jesus Christ especially during this season.
- **Ko & Stella Okudaira**, who will appreciate our interest in their work in Japan and very importantly our prayers for their church while they are in New Zealand. Stella and KO would also appreciate our prayers for them for their future ministry in Japan as they have gone there as missionaries later in life rather than earlier as most do.
- People more involve into Life groups and ministry serving so that their spiritual maturity may grow.
- All the courses and events will be happened in the church this year, i.e. **Marriage Course, Alpha Course, Pre-baptism Course**, etc., to help people to know the Lord better and deeper, hear the calling from the Lord and serve Him with great joy and blessings.
- **The renovation downstairs (phase 1)** is just about complete. Please continue to pray for this project as well as for the finances of the project.
- **People who are in needs**, visa, job, future, fiancé, health, etc.

Service Roster for next Sunday 8th Apr 2018, 9 & 11 am

Worship	Musicians	Sound	Communion	Reader	Greeters	Offering Count	Translators	Flower	Tea
Abri	Nancy	George/Ivy/LD/Jacky	Mike	David Kim/Julie	Sophia/David/Hong/Susan	Tommy/Julie	David X/Maria	Julie	Hong Li/Laura/Cui Jiazhu/?