

CHARISSA PANUVE

Grace Communion
Suva, Fiji

Background:

How do you serve in GCI? What is your role in your local congregation or the denomination as a whole? I help out with the youth in setting up the hall for services, and I try to organize get togethers for the younger members to hang out and keep each other encouraged.

How did you connect with GCI? I am third generation GCI. Grandparents from both sides of my family were part of WCG back in the day. GCI is where my parents actually met and later got married.

What are some of your reasons for choosing to participate with GCI in ministry? I enjoy spending time with our family in Christ and it brings me joy to help in whatever way I can with GCI and the youth ministry.

What is your ministry or calling? What is the legacy you hope to leave? I believe my ministry is youth/younger members. I hope to be able to help guide these young believers into their purpose in life.

Who has invested in you to support you in your ministry? The list is long, but I have so much moral support from my family, close spiritual friends, elders in the church and the pastoral team.

Who are you teaching and equipping to help with this ministry? Currently, I am the one being taught & equipped. Haha.

If you could describe your congregation in one sentence, what would you say? One big happy family.

What is something in your local congregation that you're excited about? The growth of the younger ones. We are a small congregation filled with lots of children and it's exciting to see their innocence and passion to be in the church community. Watching it continue to grow is definitely one of the things I am excited to see.

What does your community look like? I would say our community needs a lot of help, both physically and spiritually. Despite the issues at hand, everyone is positive, smiling and hoping for a better tomorrow.

What makes your region different than other places in the world? We are very small in size, both our country and congregation, so I feel that we are very tightly knit and that may not be as common in other places in the world. We also still acapella all our hymns and enjoy the natural blend in voices.



Get to Know Charissa

1.

For what are you most grateful? I am definitely most grateful for the support system that I was blessed enough to grow up around, that not only includes my parents and their upbringing but also the people God placed in my surroundings to help mould me into the person He wanted me to be.

2.

What is one of your greatest accomplishments? I think it would have to be becoming a national representative in the sport of swimming, making it (not on my own strength) to multiple World Championships, Commonwealth Games and hopefully soon to be Olympics!

3.

Favorite scripture? 2 Cor 12:9-10. This scripture always takes me through swimming competitions when I need to be reminded not to rely on my own strength.

4.

How do you experience/feel close to God? I personally feel closer to God when I have worship music going & listening to the detail of the lyrics and how it ties into personal experiences with Christ.

5.

Everyone who knows you knows you love: Easy. Swimming haha.

6.

Where do you go to have fun where you live? Anywhere outdoors, and with my friends. Whether it'd be coffee, or just a walk on the beach, to me it's the company that makes it fun not the place.

7.

Are you involved in any unique ministry opportunities in your community? Not at the moment due to Covid, but we have been trying to do outreach programs every month to reach souls out on the street.

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I BELIEVE MY MINISTRY IS WITH YOUTH AND YOUNGER MEMBERS. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO HELP GUIDE YOUNG BELIEVERS INTO THEIR PURPOSE IN LIFE.

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