

PRAYER BULLETIN

News and Prayer Requests from the Free Presbyterian Churches of North America



REV. STEPHEN HAMILTON
Lehigh Valley Free Presbyterian

**Allentown,
Pennsylvania**

Rev. Stephen Hamilton says he is continuing to receive some encouraging feedback from the internet messages, particularly from the Facebook video services. During this challenging period they have had one or two visitors at church also. The numbers remain small as some have not as yet returned for in-person worship. Some of these have significant health issues, including a faithful foundation member, Mr. Paul Welwood, who is receiving chemotherapy treatment for cancer. Please pray for him.

The regular Skype prayer meetings have been a blessing to a number of their folks, including Mr. Welwood. He would otherwise be unable to join in with the seasons of prayer, so the recent crisis has provided this unexpected blessing.

Pray that God will build up the work spiritually in these challenging and difficult times for the work of the Lord.

REV. PHIL OWEN
Berean Free Presbyterian

**Boston,
New York**

Berean FPC reports that over thirty vehicles came to its annual free car wash and lunch on August 15, double the average of previous years. Please pray for fruit from this community outreach.

The rebuilding of the manse continues and the church thanks the Lord that the workers remain safe on the site and that there have been good gospel opportunities with them. Do pray for their salvation. The Owens hope to move in sometime in October.

The men of the church have been meeting weekly for prayer with men from a likeminded church nearby. They enjoy the fellowship and the shared concern for conversions and revival.

An elderly gentleman in the church, Mike, has recently had a relapse with cancer and would be encouraged to know that many are praying for him.

Rev. Phil Owen, now in his seventeenth year as a school bus driver, asks for prayer for the students and families on his new bus run. Pray that they will be open to the gospel, especially as the schools open in the pandemic.

REV. PAUL BACKHURST
Minister-elect
Calgary Free Presbyterian

**Calgary,
Alberta**

The Calgary congregation gives thanks for the Lord's continued protection. Most of the people are back out at the various meetings and the church has gained some new congregants via the online ministry. The delayed installation service of Rev. Paul A. Backhurst is to take place on September 18, with a Presbytery commission of Canadian men. Please pray for humility, wisdom, and unction for the Lord's servant. On the following day, the church celebrates its fortieth anniversary. It humbly acknowledges the Lord's gracious kindness over the years. Please pray that the Lord will grant another forty years, that the congregation may be further established, and that revival will be granted to a city already under God's righteous judgment. On the Lord's Day immediately after this, Sierra Struck is to be dedicated, with Dr. Larry Saunders officiating. Please pray that the invited family and friends will have their hearts opened to the preaching of the gospel and be saved.

Rev. Andrew Fitton, licentiate from Ulster, recently married Hannah Niemi, daughter of one of the church's deacons, Bob Niemi. The newlyweds are attending Calgary FPC and continue to look to the Lord for where He will have them. Pray for opportunities and the Lord's clear leading.

REV. IAN GOLIGHER
Cloverdale Free Presbyterian

**Cloverdale,
British Columbia**

Rev. Ian Goligher states, "It has been the most frustrating summer and yet perhaps the most fruitful in the history of our congregation." In-person services resumed in June, and communion services were held again in July with the communicants bringing their own supplies. The provincial government in British Columbia restricted attendance of public gatherings to a maximum of fifty people, which meant that some people have been turned away from morning services. Adding to

this difficulty, there has been a record number of new visitors. Some have come after listening to the local radio broadcasts and some because their own churches have not been holding services.

Please pray for the Lord's watch care over the congregation from the COVID-19 virus and for unsaved attendees to be converted to Christ.

On Sunday evening, September 6, Mr. Goligher gave his testimony of salvation and early years of service in the Free Presbyterian Church in Northern Ireland. He outlined the issues that led to the formation of the denomination in Ulster in 1951 due to the apostasy of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. He also related how the Lord burdened him to minister in Canada, commencing in July 1984.

REV. ARMEN THOMASSIAN
Interim Moderator
Covenant Free Presbyterian

**Columbia,
South Carolina**

Rev. Armen Thomassian reports that on the last Sunday in August the Columbia church had some visitors, the first in a long time. The visitors, a family of seven, have just recently moved to the area. The preacher on that occasion was Rev. John Kelly. For those not aware, Mr. Kelly previously planted a Baptist church in Maine, but moved to Greenville to study at Geneva Reformed Seminary and intends to come under care of the Presbytery, the Lord willing.

There are challenges, but Mr. Thomassian is confident that encouraging things are on the horizon for Covenant FPC. Pray for two things: that the visiting family (and others) will continue to attend and that God will sustain Mr. Kelly. Although he has a lot of responsibility with work, study, and care for his family, it is hoped that he can take charge of most of the Lord's Day morning services.

REV. ARMEN THOMASSIAN
DR. ALAN CAIRNS
Emeritus
Faith Free Presbyterian

**Greenville,
South Carolina**

At the beginning of September Faith FPC resumed its Sunday school and some of its other ministries including the before-service prayer meetings and ladies' meetings. The church family also enjoyed a picnic together on Labor Day, the first church-wide fellowship meal to be held since March. Weather permitting, the Neighborhood Bible Club will resume on Saturday, the 12th. Those who minister at Generations Boys' Home are still being limited to sending in videos. Please pray that the Lord will use even those attempts to speak to the hearts of the boys.

The church family has been encouraged to have a number of new members join the church over the last few months. They also thank the Lord that the election held on August 26 resulted in ten men being voted in to serve as deacons for the next three years. The church greatly appreciates their willingness to serve going forward and thanks all those who have served so faithfully in the past.

The fall 2020 session of Geneva Reformed Seminary has begun. The students were introduced to the Faith FPC family during the evening service on September 5. Pray for the Lord's blessing on them and on their instructors, particularly the president, Dr. Mark Allison. At a recent visit to Duke University Hospital, an MRI scan revealed an inoperable tumor. Many of you have been praying faithfully for the Lord's servant over the past two years; please continue to remember him and his family.

REV. GEOFF BANISTER
REV. RON BARNES
Associate Minister
Indianapolis Free Presbyterian

**Indianapolis,
Indiana**

Rev. Geoff Banister reports that on Sunday, September 6, the Indianapolis church had communion for the first time since March. They used prepackaged elements to ensure everyone's safety.

Brenda Richter, an elderly attendee of the church, has made the decision to enter an assisted-living center pending her acceptance. Please pray that she will be accepted.

The church continues to have Sunday school in the evenings via Zoom, as well as prayer meeting in the middle of the week also via Zoom. Pray that the Lord will guide in the matter of opening up prayer meetings for people to attend on site as well as going back to a second service and moving Sunday school back to the mornings.

Please pray for the church's webcast services. Generally speaking, they've gone well, but there have been some technical glitches along the way. Pray also that a greater number of people will tune in to these services and that souls will be saved as a result.

The church is grateful for the Lord's provision that enabled it to seal and stripe the parking lot again, something that needs to be done every four or five years. The people thank the Lord for this needed improvement to the church property.

Geoff and Sandy Banister were able to spend a week and a half with Sandy's mother in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Sandy was very encouraged by her mother's improved condition. They thank the Lord for this as they continue to pray for her mother's spiritual needs.

DR. STEPHEN POLLOCK
FPC of Malvern
**Malvern,
Pennsylvania**

The Malvern church sadly had to postpone the ladies' conference since it would be very problematic for the Saunders to visit from Toronto. All being well, they will consider holding it in the spring of 2021.

Dr. Stephen Pollock says that the last few months have reminded them to be grateful for the simple privilege of being able to meet for worship and prayer. Many of the church's senior members have not returned to public worship as yet and their presence is sorely missed. Please pray for wisdom in restarting the other ministries, especially those involving the children and young people.

Dr. Pollock would appreciate prayer as, in addition to his other responsibilities, he teaches New Testament Introduction at Geneva Reformed Seminary. The Pollock family would appreciate prayer regarding their Green Card application since it seems to have been stalled due to the coronavirus.

REV. JASON BOYLE
Iglesia Cristiana El Redentor
(Redeemer Christian Church)
**Mexico City,
Mexico**

The Mexico City church has been meeting in its church building for five weeks now. They have two identical morning services since they are limited to only thirty people in each service. They continue to meet via Zoom for the Sunday afternoon service and for Wednesday night prayer meetings.

Last week they received five people into membership, for which they praise the Lord. Please continue to pray for a larger meeting place for the church. Since they can't find anything to rent that is large enough, they are praying about purchasing a property they have been looking at.

In August three church members were diagnosed with COVID-19. They praise the Lord that all are better now. A few church members are still without work due to the pandemic, but some have begun to return to their jobs, for which they thank the Lord. The church marvels at the Lord's providence in providing rehabilitation care free of charge for a young mom who had a stroke a year and a half ago. Please pray for Yessica, who is due to have a baby at the beginning of October. Please also pray that God would raise up local elders for the church.

In the next month or two Jason plans to start a Bible study on the opposite side of the city for the twelve people in that area who travel one to two hours to church. The long-term goal/prayer for this Bible study is that it will turn into a church plant. The short-term goal is that it will provide fellowship for those who live farther away and can't make it to mid-week meetings.

DR. STEPHEN POLLOCK
Interim Moderator
Orlando Free Presbyterian
**Orlando,
Florida**

Dr. Pollock is encouraged by reports that the Orlando church continues to know unity as the people meet together and worship using Sermonaudio webcasts. Please pray that they would know much of the Lord's presence as they watch services from various of our FPC churches.

Please make Rev. Thomas Laverty's visa status a matter for focused, fervent prayer. The church family is having to wait patiently for his arrival.

REV. DAVID MOOK
Phoenix Free Presbyterian
**Peoria,
Arizona**

The Phoenix session canceled the church services on July 5 and July 19 because of symptoms of illness in one of the families that attended earlier services, but the church has been able to maintain a consistent schedule of meeting for worship each Lord's Day morning, beginning July 26.

The session is planning to resume the midweek prayer meeting on September 16, and may also revise its suggestion on the attendance at the worship services by the congregation's most senior members. The congregation continues to adhere to the other protocols that the session and committee put in place during June. Thankfully, no one has had a confirmed case of COVID-19, although one person received a test for the disease that returned a negative result.

One of the highlights during the summer months was the announcement of the engagement of Kara Morrow, who has spent her whole life in the Phoenix church, to Isaac Sassa, who grew up in the Malvern congregation before relocating to the Phoenix area earlier this year to accept a job.

The church also rejoiced with Herb and Olivia Tschappler on the birth on August 28 of their first grandchild, Blair Tschappler, daughter of Nathan and Lauren Tschappler, who live in Texas.

REV. REGGIE CRANSTON
Port Hope Free Presbyterian
**Port Hope,
Ontario**

Rev. Reggie Cranston reports that because of COVID-19 there have been very few visitors attending the services in Port Hope. However, he and his congregation were blessed one Sabbath Day in August, when a large number of their Dutch Reformed friends came to worship with them.

There was such a large turnout of the Dutch Reformed people that, because of social distancing, the Port Hope congregation had to watch the services from the basement of the church.

Mr. Cranston requests prayer for the pulpit ministry as it goes out each week on Sermonaudio and on Facebook Live. Mr. Cranston is thankful that the Lord has been merciful and kept all of the congregation safe from the virus.

DR. LARRY SAUNDERS
DR. FRANK McCLELLAND
Emeritus
Toronto Free Presbyterian

Toronto, Ontario

For the first time in six months the Toronto church will be having two public church services on Sunday, September 6. The people are greatly looking forward to the first communion service during the same period. While it is nice to meet together, the regulations are somewhat onerous: everyone must be masked, they can't use hymn books, a record of attendance must be kept, and alternate seating and hand washing are practiced.

If the regulations for the church are problematic, they are nothing compared to what was necessary for the re-opening of the Whitefield Christian Schools on Tuesday, September 8. The school staff were quite busy setting up the classrooms to the government regulations. Dr. McClelland, who submitted this report for Toronto, says, "Hopefully, COVID-19 will soon be over. The Lord spoke to the ministering angel in 2 Samuel 24:16 of the plague in David's day: 'It is enough: stay now thine hand.' May we pray that the Lord will speedily intervene. Only God can stop it."

REV. MYRON MOONEY
Trinity Free Presbyterian

Trinity, Alabama

The Trinity church family is thankful for the ongoing prayers and expressions of comfort extended to them since the homegoing of Amy Frank. Please continue to pray for the Frank family during these days. The Trinity congregation appreciates the prayers of the denominational family for Levi Frank's recent eye surgery. The doctor is pleased with the way Levi's eye is healing. They also praise the Lord for bringing a retired minister and his wife to the services for several weeks now.

Pastor Mooney enjoyed helping conduct two weddings. Miss Hannah Nelson, a part of Trinity FPC for several years when she was growing up, married Mr. Jake Nelson in July. On August 1, Miss Elizabeth Frank married Mr. Jeremy Carpenter from Virginia at a beautiful outdoor wedding.

The church is thankful they have escaped COVID-19 so far, although Pastor Mooney has spoken at several funerals in the area for people outside the church who have succumbed to the disease.

The Lord blessed the annual For God & Truth Conference held in mid-August. In spite of only minimal advertising because of the virus, the attendance was good. Some local people visited for the first time while others attended from five other states. Sermon topics revolved around the biblical response to crisis and sparked thoughtful conversation among attendees.

Although there was no reenactment outreach at the park over the Labor Day weekend as there has been for the last thirty years, one is being planned at a more rural venue for early October.

Please pray for the salvation of the young and others who regularly sit in the services and are yet unsaved.

REV. IAN GOLIGHER
Interim Moderator
Victoria Free Presbyterian

Victoria, British Columbia

The pandemic has made local ministry in Victoria impossible this summer. It was hoped to have some visiting preachers, but with restrictions on travel and with uncertainty of the risk level to the people, all regular meetings have been cancelled. The people presently join the webcast services of Cloverdale FPC from their homes.

On August 14, Rev. Andrew Simpson along with his wife and son held a garden meeting with one of the families in the congregation. Please pray for people as they suffer the loss of fellowship and the weekly live services. Pray for Mrs. Rita Ryzebol, who has been diagnosed with a form of lymphoma. She is awaiting a treatment plan and looks to her Lord for His help in her time of need.

REV. REGGIE KIMBRO
REV. DERRICK BOWMAN
Associate Minister
Grace Free Presbyterian

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The Winston-Salem church is resuming its Sunday school later this month. Pray that the Lord will bless this return to classes after such a long hiatus.

The church family has very much enjoyed having John Fitzsimons (Paul and Pamela's son) visit with them for several weekends since his being stationed at Fort Bragg, which is about two hours away, earlier this year. Rev. Reggie Kimbro says it has been good to enjoy fellowship with and to be able to minister to "one of our own" who has been in the military and away from the Free Church for over a year before being stationed in North Carolina.