VOL. 9, NO. 5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

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 that the situation with COVID-19 has made things challenging in the last eighteen months. Some who ceased to attend in-person services have not returned. In general, people in the community still appear reluctant to attend services. The church has had one or two encouragements, however. One new couple and an individual have begun to attend services recently. Mr. Hamilton trusts this will be the beginning of a new influx of attendees in the coming days. Also, the Lord has blessed financially during the pandemic, for which the church is thankful.

There is steady interest from internet listeners and watchers, some of whom write to Mr. Hamilton on a regular basis. Sickness and death among the men in Mr. Hamilton's soccer league have created opportunities to witness. On one occasion Mr. Hamilton was asked to offer prayer in the presence of the men for one of their fellow players who was in hospital having heart surgery. The man who asked him to pray had previously stated he did not ever want to talk about politics or religion when the players were gathered together! Please pray on for a great work of God among these men.

REV. PHIL OWEN Berean Free Presbyterian

Boston, New York

The Boston, New York, church appreciated prayer for its annual car wash and hot dog lunch held on August 28. Several who attended in the past returned and good conversations happened. Do pray for the souls of those that were reached.

The Owens enjoyed spending a recent Sabbath with the Malvern church and renewing friendships. The hospitality and kindness of God's servants were encouraging.

Rev. Phil Owen covets prayer for the students (and their family members) on his school bus routes, including a few from a private school and many from a public elementary school. Some have never heard of the Lord. Please pray for Tonia Owen as she and her siblings help their aged parents downsize. Finally, please intercede for conversions (especially of family members of people in the church) and for additions to the church.

REV. PAUL BACKHURST Calgary Free Presbyterian

Calgary, Alberta

Rev. Paul Backhurst reports that Alberta is again heading into more public health measures, although what that will mean for public worship, besides masking, is not clear at the moment.

He recently had the joy and privilege of baptizing two young adults, Brendan and Jheanell. Please pray for the Lord to strengthen them in their faith and walk.

The church is still praying for a nine-year-old boy named Chanson, whose skull got crushed. The son of a Christian couple in Calgary, Chanson is still in a vegetative state but is breathing unassisted. Please continue to pray with them for a miracle.

By the time of the publication of this bulletin, one of the church's young ladies will have become Mrs. Marissa Marshall. Please pray for God's rich blessings upon Marissa and her husband, Lewis.

Sabbath school preparations are in full flow in September. They have a number of children in the congregation and are also inviting children from the neighborhood to attend. Please pray for the teachers and their assistants. Please also remember the recommencement of all the various fellowship meetings in the fall.

DR. LARRY SAUNDERS

Interim Moderator Cloverdale Free Presbyterian

Cloverdale, British Columbia

Dr. Larry Saunders reports that the ministry in Cloverdale has been blessed by a variety of preachers both in person and online. Please continue to pray that God will bring a pastor to lead the congregation.

REV. ARMEN THOMASSIAN

Interim Moderator
Covenant Free Presbyterian

Columbia, South Carolina

Rev. Armen Thomassian reports that one of the key attendees at the Columbia church will be moving out of state in the near future. This will bring an added challenge to the future of the work. Your prayerful remembrance is deeply appreciated.

REV. ARMEN THOMASSIAN Faith Free Presbyterian

Greenville, South Carolina

Over the summer months when Rev. Armen Thomassian was out of town for youth camp and vacation, Faith FPC enjoyed the ministries of Rev. Phil Owen, Rev. John Wagner, Mr. Logan Elder, and Rev. Reggie Kimbro. Mr. Kimbro also officiated the baptism of Leah Thomassian.

At the Wednesday prayer meeting following youth camp, Mr. Thomassian and some of the camp staff gave reports thanking the Lord for His blessing and encouraging everyone to pray that the Lord would continue to work in the hearts of the young people who were at camp.

Please pray for those who are mourning the loss of loved ones: the families of Dr. Edward Panosian and Mr. Paul Schlimgen as well as Rev. John Wagner, who lost his sister, and Mr. Todd Poole, who lost his father, in the last couple of weeks. Pray also for many who are seriously ill.

A special day of prayer was held on August 29. The church family enjoyed a fellowship meal after the morning service and then spent the afternoon season of prayer focusing on repentance and seeking the Lord's blessing on the families and ministries of the church.

Visitors continue to come to the services, some after hearing the church services on the radio and others on Sermonaudio. The congregation has also been encouraged by the addition of new members in recent days.

Geneva Reformed Seminary has begun its fall session. Pray for the Lord's hand to be upon all the faculty and students. Pray also for more men to be called of God to the ministry of the FPC.

DR. STEPHEN POLLOCK FPC of Malvern

Malvern, Pennsylvania

Over the past few weeks several of the members of the Malvern church have reported friends and loved ones who are seriously ill. It reminds Dr. Stephen Pollock that the members of our churches carry many burdens. He says, "We are determined to pray for each other and to 'bear one another's burdens.' We must be thankful for the support of God's people and, as you pray for the Malvern church, please remember those who are ill and are connected with the work."

The Malvern people return thanks to the Lord for their young people who were able to attend the youth camp in July and for those involved in the Mission Board team that went to Orlando in August. Camp was a blessed time. Please pray on for the impact of the Word in all who were present.

Dr. Pollock would appreciate prayer for the regular pastoral ministries as he also teaches online in Geneva Reformed Seminary through September and October. The church plans to recommence its ladies' fellowship and children's ministries in the coming weeks. As always, they pray for God to use the church in the saving of souls. Dr. Pollock is thankful for many members who are committed to personal evangelism in the community and in their families. May God bless their labors.

REV. JASON BOYLE Iglesia Cristiana El Redentor (Redeemer Christian Church)

Mexico City, Mexico

In August Rev. Jason Boyle visited Ramón Sosa and his church in the Dominican Republic to evaluate their situation and to help prepare them for the next step of Ramón's being licensed and ordained in the Free Presbyterian Church of North America and his church becoming constituted. Lord willing, Ramón's examination before the presbytery will happen at the October Week of Prayer, and the ordination and constitution at some point after that.

The Mexico City church's new temporary meeting place is slowly but surely coming along. The Boyles have been blessed to see how many have pitched in to help. Please pray that it would continue this way as they work on other necessary building and remodeling (kitchen, nursery, etc.).

In the last couple months, the church has had dozens of visitors, a fair number of whom have returned and some have even become regular attendees. On a recent Sunday they had 85 people in church, even though twenty regulars weren't there due to illness. The growing numbers keep them aware of the need to purchase property on which to build. The people give generously, but humanly speaking, the purchase is beyond their grasp. Please pray with them as they look to the Lord to provide the funds needed.

Please pray for Ruben Ramirez, who has begun his studies in Geneva Reformed Seminary online. Pray that the Lord will enable him to balance his studies, ministry, and work. Other young

men (who don't speak English) are also expressing interest in the ministry. Pray for much guidance and energy for Jason in the training portion of his ministry.

Please pray for the church's mission work in Zongozotla, Puebla, which was recently hit pretty hard by a hurricane. Many lost the roofs to their houses, their crops (which are their livelihood), and power. Sarahy, missionary to Zongozotla and member of the Mexico City church, has had trouble keeping her insulin cold without a refrigerator.

The Boyles request prayer for 1) the finalization of Jonathan's adoption, which they hope will happen in September or October; 2) progress on their deputation video; and 3) guidance regarding the timing of their deputation and furlough, which is long overdue. On July 21 they celebrated eleven years in Mexico to God's glory. They hope to have their first furlough in 2022.

(For more about the men wanting to train for the ministry in Latin America as well as about the mission work in Zongozotla, check out the video prepared for Faith FPC's vacation Bible school: https://www.sermonaudio.com/solo/faith/sermons/818211427536490/.)

DR. STEPHEN POLLOCK

Interim Moderator
Orlando Free Presbyterian

Orlando, Florida

The summer months saw several of the members of the Orlando church fall ill. However, the Lord was gracious and all are recovering. At the same time the Lord saw fit to bless the congregation with the ministry of Rev. John Kelly. Dr. Stephen Pollock says it was good to have a period of consecutive ministry during the vacancy.

The church family is grateful for the mission team that visited in August. Led by Rev. Derrick Bowman, the team took on the task of remodeling the outside and inside of the church. Church elder Mr. Ken Walters, writes, "The results are spectacular! All the ceiling tiles were replaced, LED lighting was installed, and all the siding was replaced. It looks like a new building! How refreshing it was to talk to the young people and hear how they were thrilled to serve the Lord, even with manual labor. Praise the Lord for all His goodness!"

These joys and blessings have intensified the longing in the congregation for an under-shepherd to preach the Word and evangelize the area. Please pray much for God to send a man of His choosing.

REV. STEPHEN HAMILTON

Interim Moderator
Phoenix Free Presbyterian

Peoria, Arizona

As interim moderator Rev. Stephen Hamilton is presently seeking to provide oversight to the Arizona church from a distance. When preachers are available to speak in person, they are traveling to Phoenix. However, on most Lord's Days the congregation has been watching archived video sermons. Please pray that with the relaxation of COVID restrictions, God willing, preachers from farther afield will become more available to preach. Pray particularly that in His time God will raise up a man to take the pulpit on a permanent basis.

REV. REGGIE CRANSTON Port Hope Free Presbyterian

Port Hope, Ontario

Rev. Reggie Cranston and his congregation have been encouraged over the summer months with a number of vacationing Dutch Reformed visitors attending the Sabbath Day services.

Mr. Cranston requests prayer for a move of the Holy Spirit through the preaching of the Word. The congregation continues to pray for six new families to be added to the congregation and that among them would be men who would be eligible to hold office.

Mr. George Robinson, who has had the oversight of the finances of the church for many years, is retiring from that position. In recognition of his faithful service, a presentation was made to Mr. Robinson and to his wife, Linda.

REV. ANDREW SIMPSON Heritage Free Presbyterian

Prince George, British Columbia

The Prince George congregation has known God's blessing upon the work this past year. Several contacts have been made in recent months, which have resulted in new families and individuals attending the church services. Rev. Andrew Simpson asks for prayer for these new families to become members and to commit themselves to the local church.

Heritage FPC hosted its summer Bible club with twenty-two children in attendance. Pray for the children that the Word of God would bear much fruit in their lives. The congregation also enjoyed several special times of prayer when the Lord drew near. Mr. Simpson says it has been particularly encouraging to hear some people praying publicly for the first time.

Mr. Simpson will be taking his holidays in September. Steven Boyd and Isaiah Struck will be covering the pulpit ministry. Pray that the Lord will help in their preparation and as they preach.

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

Toronto, Ontario

The Whitefield Christian Schools began the new school year on Tuesday, September 7. They are hoping there will be none of the disruptions caused by the pandemic this past year, although certain restrictions such as masks are still in place. The enrollment is at about 250, which is ideal in terms of class size and finance. Please pray for the staff, students, and parents that the school will be a school of Christ.

The church is making good headway since being allowed to meet together publicly again. The gospel also continues to go out on Sermonaudio.com each Lord's Day. Pray for all of our Free Presbyterian churches, that the Lord would quicken and revive us in these trying times.

The Toronto church was saddened by the recent death of Tony Puccini, who, as Dr. Frank Mc-Clelland put it, was "one of the nicest Christian men you could ever meet." He was ninety and is survived by his loving wife, Grace. She would appreciate your prayers.

REV. MYRON MOONEY Trinity Free Presbyterian

Trinity, Alabama

The Trinity congregation continues to praise God for His many mercies to them. It congratulates Spencer and Katie Miller on the birth of their baby boy Mitch on August 30. Mitch, who was born prematurely, is in the NICU and is growing. Jacob and Kelly Frank welcomed Simeon Hoover Frank on Thursday, September 2, at 7:30 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and was 18.5 inches long. Simeon is receiving lots of love and attention from his seven older siblings. Please pray for both Katie and Kelly and their new babies.

Having completed the "Lessons of Life" series in the children's Sunday school class, Ridley Yarbrough and Lily Frank were promoted in a recent service. They were each recognized with a certificate and given a devotional book.

The congregation is looking forward to the wedding of Miss Bonnie Rowe and Mr. Joshua Mooney on September 25. For those who might like to watch, the wedding will be livestreamed on Sermonaudio at 1:00 p.m. Central Time from Trinity FPC.

Mr. Mooney would ask for prayer for his annual Reformation messages through the Sunday mornings in October as well as for his speaking at Reformation Heritage Bible Church's Reformation meetings in Darlington, Maryland, at the end of the month.

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

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Rev. Reggie Kimbro asks for prayer for some serious matters related to the Winston-Salem congregation. First, founding member and long-time (former) elder Greg Munger has been diagnosed with rectal cancer. He is waiting for tests to determine how far it has advanced and potential treatments. The family would greatly appreciate prayers. Greg is the father of Lydia Bowman.

Also, many both in Greenville and in Winston-Salem will know Ryan Smith, who is the husband of Kathryn Spears. Ryan grew up in Winston-Salem and his parents, Dane and Susan Smith, are members. Ryan had emergency surgery for a bowel blockage about a month ago. He had to have two more surgeries (one of those an emergency) within the following two weeks. After several weeks of great difficulty and danger, he seems to be turning a corner, but even in a best-case scenario, he is facing months of recovery after he gets out of the hospital, and the time for that is still uncertain. Ryan and Kathryn have three small children.

REV. IAN GOLIGHER Let the Bible Speak

Canada

Please continue to pray for the daily and weekly messages going out on ten radio stations across Canada. Pray for regular programming on the Harvesters FM radio station and its affiliates in the Maritimes to be recommenced after the founder and CEO, Dr. Jeff Lutes, died suddenly on July 16. Dr. Lutes was a Christian man with a vison to reach the Maritimes with the gospel. He had a hands-on approach in the daily operation of the station, and, since his passing, programming has been music only. After the shock of Dr. Lute's death, his wife and others at the station are undergoing training to install and operate new software so that the station can return to regular programming as soon as possible.

Pray for Mrs. Judy Friesen from La Crete, Alberta, who has been suffering from pancreatic cancer and is near the kingdom of God. Mrs. Friesen and her family have been longtime listeners to *Let the Bible Speak* and to church webcasts from Free Presbyterian churches.

Pray for programs soon to be aired expounding Isaiah chapter 53. These messages for believers and unbelievers expound the victory of Christ's work on the cross in His work of atonement for sinners. All programs are archived online at www.ltbs.ca and are available as podcasts.