

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



October 2021

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—*Richard Craig & Randy Gunnings*

Richard Craig and Randy Gunnings take comfort in Psalm 94:14: “For the LORD will not cast off His people; neither will He forsake His inheritance.” In September six persons who live next door to the mission contracted COVID-19, four of whom are associated with the congregation. One of them was hospitalized in critical condition, but the Lord has taken her through it and she is now thanking God for sparing her life.

Due to a major increase in virus cases, there is great fear and hesitancy in the congregation about meeting on the Lord’s Day. The virus has taken approximately twelve lives just in the vicinity of the mission. Please pray that if it’s the Lord’s will, He will keep and preserve His blood-bought people.

Please be in prayer for the people in the Jamaican work as they seek the Lord to open new doors for the proclamation of the true gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Special prayers and intervention are also needed especially for the children in the country as there has been a great increase in child molestation due to schools being closed because of COVID-19.

◆ Dominican Republic

Los Frailes—*Ramón & Wendy Sosa*

Rev. Ramón Sosa enjoyed attending the FPCNA Ministers’ Week of Prayer and Presbytery Meeting in Indianapolis at the beginning of October. He said it was good to be able to meet in person again although they missed the ministers from Canada who had to join by Zoom. During that week Ramón was licensed to preach by the presbytery. He says it was a beautiful ceremony and he now feels challenged to continue with the task of extending missionary work in the Dominican

Republic. See <https://www.sermonaudio.com/solo/irpavi/sermons/10102106297262/>.

The church continues to meet in person on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. The Lord has preserved the health of all of them. Some brothers were infected with COVID months ago, but there have been no further infections in the congregation. They have had several visitors in Sunday services, and people interested in knowing more about the church have written to them. They plan to begin services on Sunday afternoons soon. Pray for revival in the church and for the Lord to add those who are to be saved. Pray that the visitors will be granted repentance.

The 2021–2022 school year began in the preschool in September with 36 children enrolled. Many other children requested to enter the program, but because space is limited, the Sosas were not able to accept them. Pray for the Lord to bless efforts to evangelize the children and their families.

Finally, please pray for financial provision for the Sosas as well as for some others in the church who are out of work.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—*Jason & Danielle Boyle*

The Boyles experienced an earthquake in mid-September. The epicenter was in Acapulco, and the quake was 6.9 on the Richter scale. There was much damage in Acapulco, but none in Mexico City.

The Mexico City church celebrated with deacon Raul and his wife, Eva, as they marked fifty years of marriage. It was a wonderful time of reflection on God’s faithfulness.

The Latin American men were blessed at the Week of Prayer in Indianapolis. During the week, Ramón Sosa was examined and licensed to preach. Jason preached to the ministers on Thursday, and, at the church meal on Thursday evening, Jason, Lalo, and Ramón gave reports.

On October 9 Jason finished teaching his homiletics class, which has had very good attendance and participation. After this class, there will be a break until the New Year.

A 16-year-old young lady, Mariana, who was recently baptized, participated in a debate in her public school. Her assigned topic was homosexuality, and she was assigned to be on the opposing side. The youth and young adults of the church arranged a mock debate for her, which was a big help with her preparation for the debate. The debate had a duration of two hours, during which she had a chance to share the gospel. Everyone listened very attentively. The teacher asked her to stay on after the class and asked her very specific questions about what it means to be a sinner and other essential gospel questions. Mariana spent half an hour with her after class having a deeper conversation about the gospel. One of her classmates has also asked her questions outside of class. The teacher was particularly impressed by Mariana’s competence, conviction, and understanding of the Bible. To God be the glory and may her teacher come to know the Lord.

Jason plans to travel to Queretaro and San Luis Potosi in October to visit Wenceslao and Pepe and their respective churches. Both families have been blessed with new baby girls. In December, some of the single men in the church plan to visit the mission in Zongozotla where Miguel and Lety live and Sarahy does mission work. Pray that they will be an encouragement and blessing to all the believers there.

Orizaba—*Marcus & Jennifer Reyes*

The Reyeses are grateful to the Lord for wonderful opportunities to serve Him during these dark days. They have had the tremendous blessing of having many new people come to Christ in repentance and show fruit. A man named Renato came to Christ with his wife and two children, Rosemary (18) and son Yael (9) after hearing the gospel at the funeral of a family member. Renato was very hard hearted and trusting in Romanism. Marcus says his anger was evident, but grace shone through and light came into his heart. His family was baptized at the beginning of October. He shared his testimony with bold-

ness and desires to reach other lost neighbors and family members. Marcus says this is just one story of God's grace and favor. He and Jen are grateful to be witnesses of God's power to save, of His vast mercy, and His faithful love.

EUROPE

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—*Milos & Martina Solc*

The Solces are very thankful to the Lord that just a couple of weeks ago they reached another significant milestone in the work in the Czech Republic with the printing of their own hymnbook. This first printing is in a preliminary form to allow them to iron out any imperfections, but they are all enjoying the blessing of having it available for their worship services. They have been working on it for many years, meeting once a week for much of that time to get it to this point. Rev. Milos Solc gives special thanks to brother Martin Hýsek, who has been behind much of this effort, as well as to his son Miloš.

The most special news this time is that the Lord answered prayer for the young girl from the children's camp that was mentioned in the last report. Her name is Laura, and she was strongly spoken to by the Lord. Laura wanted to attend the church services and, thanks be to God, her mother did allow her to come. When Milos spoke with her about a week ago about the state of her soul, she told him that about a month back after one of the Sabbath evening services, she prayed in her own home that the Lord would save her. Milos says, "And the Lord did just that; for he that cometh to Him, He will in no wise cast out. What wonderful news. We all rejoice in the salvation of the Lord."

Finally, this past weekend the church had its fall picnic to which they invited the children from the camp as another opportunity to reach out to them with the gospel. Several of them were not able to come because of sickness, but a few did come. During the word that Milos brought to them, he mentioned the salvation of Laura, and as a result another girl came to the morning service. She now needs prayer, especially as she desired to come to the evening service as well but was not allowed. May the Lord deliver her even as He delivered Laura, for His Name's sake.

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—*David DiCanio*

Rev. David DiCanio reports that the landlord for the property where the bookstore, NGO headquarters, and church are housed has started the construction project to build them a new building. The mission is in the process of removing doors and windows from the existing structure and is also selling off some of the older furniture that they have no room to store or that is no longer of use to them.

Dave says it will be a bit of a challenge to figure out how they will hold church during the construction time, but the landlord is trying as much as possible to do things so that they can still hold meetings. Thankfully, the dry season is beginning so they could hold a service outside if they need to.

Monrovia—*Joanne Greer*

Joanne Greer says they held vacation Bible school August 23–27 for thirty children, handpicked according to attendance at the regular meetings and aged between 9 and 16 years. They had a very good week studying creation and spending a little time refuting some of the claims of evolutionists. Most high schools in Liberia, whether they claim to be Christian or not, use textbooks written from an evolutionary viewpoint. The missionaries were particularly encouraged by the children's attention to what was a slightly more challenging topic than usual and also by the enthusiastic help they received from several men and young people from the church.

Due to nationwide COVID-related delays in the educational calendar as well as delays in the proposed church renovation and classroom construction on the mission's leased property, the launch of the preschool has been postponed until September 2022, Lord willing. Dave and Joanne are thankful that the lease renewal has been agreed on and signed and that the Ministry of Public Works has given their landlord more clarity on the effects of the road construction adjacent to the property. Now that the rainy season is nearly over, they anticipate that the construction will begin to progress.

In light of the pilot project delay, the Ulster Mission Board has asked Joanne to go home to Northern Ireland for deputation meetings this fall, rather than next fall as originally planned. This will mean that she will be in Liberia next September, Lord willing, and present for the launch of the preschool. In

the providence of God, foreign missionary deputation in Ulster had been put on hold for the past year because of COVID-related travel difficulties, so most churches had meetings available. Joanne will be doing deputation from November 2021 to March 2022, Lord willing, and would appreciate prayer for the approximately sixty meetings booked so far.

◆ Uganda

Nsaalu—*Noreen McAfee*

Noreen thanks us for continuing to remember Uganda in prayer. She says they have been encouraged by recent answers to prayer. The number of COVID-19 cases has reduced significantly, and many lockdown restrictions have been eased. The Emmanuel church services resumed on October 3rd with a good turnout for the Lord's Day service, Sunday school, and the midweek prayer meeting. Rev. Ray Carscadden is scheduled to preach via Zoom for October and Rev. Jonathan Creane for November. Noreen asks us to pray that the Lord would move among the members of Emmanuel and also bring new people in. She says they also need wisdom, guidance, and prayer as they plan some special outreach activities for November and December.

The electrical control panel which was shipped from Northern Ireland reached Kampala safely and was cleared by Customs and Standards and released. It is now on site at Emmanuel awaiting connection. Noreen says they are praying that Uganda would be removed from the UK's red travel list to make it easier for the electricians and others to visit them soon.

Mr. Andrew Foster managed to complete the renovation of the missionary apartment before Hannah, Rachel, and later he set off for the Netherlands to visit Hannah's family before travelling on to Northern Ireland. Noreen asks us to continue to pray for them during their time there.

Unfortunately, schools in Uganda remain closed, and the latest information is that they will not resume until next year. The government is trying to vaccinate all teaching and all non-teaching staff as well as all students over eighteen by the end of the year in a bid to prevent a third wave of COVID-19 infections when schools reopen.

The Emmanuel staff continue to prepare home-learning packs for the students. These include gospel literature for both the children and their parents or guardians. The latest packs included a copy of Dr. Cairns' booklet *A New Beginning* which the mission translated into Luganda. Noreen says they hope that

*Grant unto thy servants, that with
all boldness they may speak thy
word. ACTS 4:29*

even the printed word would be blessed to the saving of souls.

Noreen asks us to pray for both the staff and students during this time of frustration and testing. Some children have not been to school physically for eighteen months, and many young people are discouraged and downcast. Pray that they would find hope and peace in believing.

◆ Kenya

—Margaret Russell (retired)

Margaret Russell was greatly humbled and touched by the service which was recently held to mark her retirement. God's presence was very real as the Lord's name was praised for all that has taken place in Kenya over the last 38 years during Margaret's service on the field. Margaret continues to thank our churches in North America for how they so faithfully "held the ropes" as she labored in Kenya.

In her retirement, and in a voluntary capacity, Margaret will continue with the upgrading of the Sunday school curriculum. The colored picture books are now completed, and she along with others will be re-writing the linking Bible lessons in English. Please continue to pray for her as she seeks now to be a witness at home particularly among her own wider family circle, the majority of whom are outside of Christ. She says it is a mission field in itself!

Margaret will still have a small part in the work in Kenya through the Sunday school work that is carried on every week in the BCFC and the GBC. At the moment, she is working with the Sunday school superintendents in order to see that the teaching program is brought up to date again and children prepared for the annual exams and prizegiving in March and April 2022. Pray that this will be made possible as there are many challenges due to the disruption caused by the pandemic. It is encouraging to see that another three new Sunday schools have been started during 2021. The opportunities to teach the truth of the gospel to the children in Kenya are great. Margaret sees a marked difference in those opportunities in church work in the Western world and asks us to pray that God will help the church in Kenya to take hold of these openings while they are still there.

The fields are white already to harvest. Pray for the reviving and raising up of laborers, especially Sunday school teachers and children's workers who will give themselves to this great ministry!

Kitali—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

The Pattersons thank the Lord for undertaking for them since they went home for furlough in December 2019. The Lord has now opened the door for them to return to Kenya. Their Sending Forth Service was held October 12. They plan to fly from Belfast to Nairobi via London on October 21, the Lord willing.

Malcolm's mother passed into Glory on September 17. The Pattersons were very glad that they were still at home so that they could spend time with her in her final hours and take part in her funeral service. Do pray for the Patterson family circle in these days of mourning but also rejoicing. Malcolm's mother had known the Saviour for some fifty years.

Pray for Malcolm and Alison now as they prepare for their return to Kenya, obtaining the necessary paperwork, packing, saying farewell to family, and closing up their home. Pray for their family members at home, especially Alison's mother and Malcolm's father. Remember also their immediate family as they work in the National Health Service during the continuing pandemic.

Pray for safety as they travel and settle back into life in Kenya with the COVID restrictions, etc. They will spend their first week in isolation in the mission house in Kitale, so that will help in the settling in process as there are always many things to do on return. The last time they had to deal with ants that had gotten into the study and were steadily eating their way through Malcolm's set of Spurgeon, hard covers and all!

Pray for them as they take up a physical ministry among the brethren and sisters in Glory Bible Church (GBC) and in the wider community. The Zoom ministry will continue for some meetings (for example, the weekly Monday morning pastors' prayer meeting and some GBC committee meetings) because of the distance and time that would be involved to convene physical meetings.

Pray for Malcolm as he continues to do the administration work for the FPMSA in Kenya and liaises with the Mission Board, that wisdom will be given in all decisions made and that God's name would be glorified.

Pray for the printing and distribution of literature they have prepared while in Ulster. Pray for the bookshops, the Let the Bible Speak ministry, the pastors, the work of the Sunday schools, and the recently formed nursery school at Nyaporo.

Finally, pray that the Lord will direct as they seek to take the work forward by training and mentoring individuals to do God's work and to encourage the saints in Kenya.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy Gillespie asks us to please continue to pray for Nepal. She thanks God for His hand upon the country during the pandemic. As more people have gotten vaccinated, the infection rate has been dropping which is a blessing. On October 10 it had dropped from 10,000 daily infections to 594 daily infections. As a result, many restrictions have been lifted. The church is now able to have small gatherings with the hope that soon the church can resume its meetings as normal. However, in the last week restrictions have been reinstated for the Hindu festival of Dashain when families and villages hold communal celebrations to worship the goddess Durga, the Mother Earth goddess, in thanksgiving for the harvest. The government is trying to restrict large gatherings so as not to have a rise in infections. Please pray that once these celebrations finish the government will open up the country, the schools will recommence, and large conferences will be permitted.

Joy thanks God for His help with the language institute and for the new students that He has brought to it. Pray for wisdom in running the classes and for direction as to how to go forward with the institute. Pray for a full-time Christian English teacher to join the institute which would free Joy up to be able to do more work in the church.

Continue to pray for the weekly article Joy writes, especially for God's leading regarding what to write about. Joy praises the Lord for the regular correspondence she receives from around 20 to 25 individuals who comment on the article. Pray for those who have requested and received Bibles, that God will encourage them to read them and that His Spirit will enlighten them to the truth of the gospel.

◆ South Korea

Seoul—Seongkyu & Sooyoun Lee

Rev. Seongkyu Lee says the Free Presbyterian church in Korea is in peace by God's grace. Although they face many challenges due to COVID-19, they are doing their best to continue the service and meetings. Only their Sunday morning service is in person. All other meetings are held on Zoom. The youth Sunday school is held at 2:30 in the afternoon, and they are studying Romans. The adults meet at 5:00 and are studying Revelation. Seongkyu says, "We see the fall and

sinfulness of mankind and the Lord’s saving grace through Christ. We see this promise by the Lord and how it will be fulfilled through the Revelation.”

Brother Sang Chul and his wife finally received the court’s approval for their adoption. They welcomed the child into their family on October 1. The couple have been meeting with Seongkyu to learn about how to raise their child in a godly manner. Please pray for them that they can raise their child with joy and lead this precious soul to the Lord.

Brother Chul Ahn’s family has decided to live with their elderly father. This was done because the father is over ninety years of age and wished to stay with his son. Please pray that the father will listen to the gospel and spend a happy time with his family. Also pray that this family will become more Christ-like and respect their parent.

Sister Woo-im’s parent has been diagnosed with cancer and has been through an accident. Surgery went well, and the parent is now recovering. Ms. Woo-un is new in faith, so please pray that she will be able to walk through this hardship in Christ.

Sam Lee’s family is waiting for their new baby to be born. Please pray for the mother’s health so that she can deliver her new baby in November without any problem.

Lastly, Pastor Lee’s daughter Soo Jin has received a government scholarship and has entered into American College where she is currently studying biochemistry. Pray with the Lees that Soo Jin will finish her studies in faith.

The Korean government has announced that after November 9 they will reduce the social distancing measures. The church people hope that they can meet more freely from then on. The congregation desires to serve the Lord in faith more than ever. Please pray for this church and congregation in Korea.

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—*Philip & Cherith Gardiner*

Rev. Philip Gardiner says that he is thankful for the Lord’s sustaining hand upon His work in Western Australia. Please pray for new families to join the work and for spiritual growth among all who attend.

This is the final term of the Bible club and the youth work for 2021. Pray for a saving work to be done in young hearts.

Finally, pray for the ongoing online ministry in Pakistan.

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Brethren, pray for us.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

See the FPCNA Mission Board website at www.fpcnamissions.org for more news, prayer requests, and pictures.

For more information about missionaries serving under the Ulster Mission Board see www.fpcmission.org.