

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



December 2021

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—*Richard Craig & Randy Gunnings*

Over two years ago, one of the founding members of the Little London FPC mission left the congregation and was baptized and received into an Apostolic Zion Church approximately two miles away. When she left, the people in the mission sought to counsel her and prayed much that God would convict her of His truth. They were recently delighted when she returned to the mission and is now reconciled with the people. Without prompting, she acknowledged and testified in tears that based on what was going on in that church such as so-called healing, casting out of demons, tongues speaking, and more, she was not able to continue in it anymore. Please pray much for her that God will truly increase her faith in Him.

Crime (especially murder) is once again on the rise in Westmoreland where the mission is located. Apparently, a lot of young schoolboys have become attached to the criminal network. It is believed that due to the discontinuation of schools because of COVID-19, their minds have been captivated by the vile elements of society. Please pray that God will move in a mighty and powerful way to convict their hearts of sin.

◆ Dominican Republic

Los Frailes—*Ramón & Wendy Sosa*

Ramón Sosa reports that the church in the Dominican Republic has begun a series of meetings for men to train them to become future leaders in the church.

Ramón's wife, Wendy, has applied for a teaching job with the government which requires passing an exam. She did well on the written part of the exam with a score of 60 out of 70 points. Please pray that she will do well in the oral exam which is worth 30 points.

The Sosas plan to attend the week of prayer being held in Mexico in January for all the Latin American pastors and their wives. So far, Ramón hasn't been able to get an appointment with the Mexican consulate for Wendy and their girls in order to get their visas. Please pray that situation will soon be resolved and also that the Lord will provide the funds for the whole family to fly to Mexico (plane tickets are very expensive right now).

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—*Jason & Danielle Boyle*

The Boyles are thankful that the Lord shows them when to move forward and when to take a step back. Jason finished the monthly Bible study that was being held on the far side of Mexico City. Its purpose was to disciple new families and invite unbelieving family members to an informal Bible study setting, with the possibility of its turning into a future church plant. However, because two families moved away and one family stopped attending, the study was discontinued after the series was done. The Boyles are thankful that God's timing and plan is best and that they can concentrate their efforts in more needed areas.

On November 26 and 27, Rubén Ramirez and Pablo Enciso did a quick two-day trip to Zongozotla where Sarahy, a member of the Mexico City church, is teaching children and their mothers. They went to take medical and school supplies, as well as to be an encouragement to Sarahy, Miguel, and Lety. They also wanted to assess other needs they may have in Zongozotla. Please pray that the Lord would guide their future ministry in Zongozotla.

The church will have a deacon election at the end of December or beginning of January. Lord willing, another deacon will be added to the current four. The Boyles continue to pray that God would see fit to prepare elders. On January 1 the church will celebrate its tenth anniversary. The Boyles say, "God's goodness, faithfulness, and power have been evident

through these ten years. All glory goes to Him, for we are weak tools in His hands."

Rubén Ramirez has finished his first trimester at Geneva Reformed Seminary. Lalo Peña is nearing the end of his GRS studies. Samuel, Sergio, Jair, Pepe, and Wences are taking adapted GRS courses. Ramón was licensed by the presbytery in October. The Church Extension Committee met recently to further discuss the constitution of the Dominican Republic church where Ramón ministers.

The church held its Christmas picnic on Saturday, December 4, with a men's soccer game, volleyball, games for the children, Christmas carols, and a short message. Good Christian books were given to the Sunday school children.

The children's and adult Sunday schools recommenced December 5 after an almost two-year break. The church is excited to once again have a room dedicated to ministering to the children.

Some new families have recently become part of the church, including a German/Mexican newly married couple. Please continue praying for provision for purchasing the new property and also that the Lord would smooth the way for the Boyles' deputation meetings and furlough after Jonathan's adoption. The judge has all the needed documents, and the Boyles just learned their court date for finalizing Jonathan's adoption is February 15. Please pray that all will go well.

The Boyles are planning a meeting in January for the six pastors that work together in Latin America and their families. Please pray especially for Ramón Sosa, that he will be able to get visas for his wife and girls and that the Lord would provide for the plane tickets for them to be able to attend.

Córdoba—*Lalo & Liz Peña*

Lalo Peña reports that they have not had any cases of COVID recently among the families and other attendees in the church. They thank God for that blessing and for normal Sunday services and Sunday school classes.

Since Lalo's last report, some of the new people have not been faithful in their attendance at the church services or at the teaching series on fundamental Christian doctrines (based on the WCF) on Mondays. Some health conditions and other difficult situations are hindering them.

Sister Lety Colina and her son, Eliam, need prayer regarding health problems. Sister Lety is ill and has had problems with vertigo and anxiety. Eliam has digestive problems.

Brother Paco Domínguez suffered an assault on the highway, but is well, thank God. This is the third time he has suffered this kind of situation in his business. His financial situation has become very complicated because the previous time a few years ago left him in debt to his suppliers for the products he sells. Lalo says that the security situation in general in Mexico is very complicated, especially in the area where Paco conducts his business operations. Please pray for wisdom and encouragement for him and for favor from his creditors.

Please keep praying for Lalo's job and good testimony in the Potable Water Agency in Córdoba. Since there is a new administration in the city, Lalo's tenure is coming to an end. Please pray for wisdom, sobriety, and circumspection for him during this time. He says it is the "political tradition" during the last days of an administration to get anything by any means from the financial resources without any remorse for involving clueless or inattentive people. Lalo says, "I thank God for His faithfulness during this opportunity to serve my city and to reach people for Him. May our good Lord grant me to leave this job with satisfactory results and my good personal testimony before man, for His glory."

Lalo reports that Liz is doing well. Please continue to pray that she will be able to maintain a good frame of mind, resting in the Lord's grace, and that Lalo and Liz will be sanctified through this time. Please pray for their children: their youngest sons, Uriel and Gadiel; daughter Pamela and her husband, Abdiel; and son Lalo, Jr., and his wife, Carolina, and their children, Camila (8), Lalito III (2), and Nataly (1). The family has begun a business in the city of Córdoba, a taqueria that sells steaks from Sonora, reported to be "the finest steaks produced in [Mexico]." Lalo says, "Please pray for them. This is not the best time to invest, but we trust in the Lord."

Finally, pray that the Lord will give Lalo the help he needs in the rest of his responsibilities, especially the preaching of the Word and taking care of the church. Lalo and his

family look forward to visiting the U.S.A. in May 2022 when he is to be licensed, Lord willing, during the Week of Prayer and presbytery meetings in Greenville.

EUROPE

◆ Spain

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

John and Noranna Hanna say that as a church they are thankful to the Lord for blessing and guiding them throughout this year. They are also very thankful to all who stood with them in prayer for the Lord's work in Spain. It goes without saying that because of COVID-19 it has been a very difficult year, as the churches suffered many disruptions and the work in general has been much hindered.

John says that since the churches recommenced their regular services it has taken a long time for all of the people to return. Two weeks ago another family returned to the services, but there are still a few more reluctant to come back. Please pray the Lord will touch those hearts and convince them of the need to not forsake assembling together in the Lord's house.

John says they have nevertheless had many encouragements. The minister, Rev. Angel Alvarez, has been continuing weekly Bible discipleship studies with several people. Some are unsaved and others are interested in becoming members of the church. Two weeks ago, a family of five commenced attending the Sabbath services. They come from a very legalistic church and have suffered quite a bit from the manipulations of the pastor. The parents are believers, but the children have not yet made a public profession of faith. In the case of the two girls, it is probably because of misconceptions coming from their background. They are presently being pastorally cared for. The son, who is 24, is not saved. Please pray for his salvation.

The church in Alcorcón plans to elect new office bearers, hopefully before the end of the year. John says they would value the prayers of God's people that the church will know the wisdom and guidance of the Lord in this important venture.

Mark Witte, the minister in the Toledo church, and his wife, Natalie, welcomed their third child, Timothy, into the world on November 19. Mark has taken some time off to help in the home, so John has had opportunities to preach more frequently, for which he is most thankful.

Both the churches in Alcorcón and Toledo celebrate the Lord's Table every two weeks

but look forward to when they will be able to return to the weekly celebration of this sacrament.

In closing, the Hannas wish everyone God's richest blessing as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, and they pray all will have a blessed and happy New Year. They are thankful for all who have prayed faithfully for them during this year.

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

Milos Solc reports that once again the COVID numbers are extremely high in the Czech Republic and that shows once again that no one knows what a day may bring forth. A part of the Solc family contracted the virus and are only now, by the grace of God, coming out of it. They are thankful to the Lord that things were not worse and that the illness is almost behind them. They certainly appreciate everyone's prayers on their behalf.

A great encouragement since the last report is that another girl, Hanna, has come to the Lord. Hanna is the girl that Milos mentioned in his last report who started coming to the church services as a result of the salvation of young Laura. Shortly after she started coming, she asked the Lord to save her. It is a great answer to prayer. She will need more prayer as she is very much alone at home in her new-found faith.

Please pray for the Christmas evangelistic service. They hope to be able to hold the meeting despite the COVID situation and hope to have various unsaved people in attendance. Please pray that the Lord would give power for the preaching of His Word and pour out His blessing upon the people.

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

David DiCanio reports that the church in Liberia is continuing to meet on the front porch of the bookstore each Sunday as the landlord builds a new building behind the existing structure for their larger church and for the Christian school pilot project. He is thankful that the young men of the church are faithfully helping each Sunday to put up a tarp to block the sun. Although the atmosphere is a little noisy, the public address system helps the larger community to hear the sermon each Sunday. The building walls are up, and they hope to soon see the concrete roof go on. Once

that happens, they plan to use the building for services.

They continue to run the radio station 24/7 and continue to get a good response. They plan to do their Christmas “giveaway” on the station December 15–25. They’ve been running a Bible quiz T-shirt giveaway since January and have been encouraged by the testimonies of the callers who play.

Dave just finished up a series on covenant theology and continues to teach the Westminster Confession of Faith (G. I. Williamson for Study Classes) to the college and career age (and some teenagers) each Sunday morning.

Nathan Barco continues to teach the children’s Sunday school while Joanne Greer is away in Ulster on her deputation meetings, and Moses Dahn does the adult Sunday school. They are also attempting to continue the Thursday reading club in Miss Greer’s absence but have been unable to do the Friday Bible club without the new building.

◆ Uganda

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen sends sincere thanks to all who have held the ropes in prayer throughout another year. She says the past few weeks have been quite busy with activities. The church commenced a series of open-air meetings around the local villages in November. The meetings have been well received with people coming out to listen, a few visitors coming into the church meetings, and some individuals seeking salvation. Noreen asks us to pray for this ministry and for the gospel literature which is distributed along the way.

November also saw the distribution of 650 food parcels and gospel literature to households in the villages of Kyambala and Nsaalu. This has been a tough year for families with prolonged lockdowns and little rain, so the packages were a welcome boost.

The wedding of one of the high school teachers, Madam Nakato, to Master Ephraim took place on November 6. Noreen asks us to pray for them and for all the young couples and families associated with the work.

The regular church services are continuing in December with Rev. David Brown ministering by Zoom. The church is also conducting two weeks of children’s Bible clubs commencing December 6 before schools reopen in January. Noreen says the team would really value prayer for a work of God in these young lives.

If all goes to plan, schools are scheduled to reopen on January 10 though the finer details have not yet been communicated to schools.

Noreen says the kindergarten and lower grade students have not been in school since March 2020, so it promises to be an interesting time! She says they will need much wisdom, grace, and patience to get things back up and running again with all the COVID-19 mitigation measures in place. Nevertheless, she says it will be wonderful to have the students physically on site!

God willing, some who have completed exams at Emmanuel will move on to other courses in January. John and Innes have been accepted for nursing; Brian is taking mechanics; and Gloria, Mable, Deborah and Rose have opted for tailoring and fashion design. Pray for them as they move to new institutions, that they would settle in well and not forget the Word of God which they have been taught.

Travel restrictions permitting, the Mission Board hopes it will be possible to send short-term personnel to Emmanuel from January 2022. The electrical team have also made tentative plans to complete the mains installation in February 2022. Noreen says they are praying that the Lord would work all things together to facilitate these arrangements.

Finally, Noreen wishes all a very happy Christmas and a blessed and prosperous New Year.

◆ Kenya

Kitali—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

The Pattersons have been very busy since they returned to Kenya, settling into the house on the mission compound in Kitale and visiting the various churches of the Glory Bible Church (GBC) as well as the bookstore ministries in Kitale and Kakamega and the college fellowship in Kakamega. A conference and annual general meeting of the GBC was held on Saturday, November 27, on the mission compound with around one hundred in attendance. Rev. Kiarie, who is a newly appointed pastor to the GBC, and his wife and family attended the conference and were welcomed by the group. He plans to plant a church in the area called Juja on the outskirts of Nairobi.

The Pattersons have seen much gospel literature distributed throughout Kenya since their return. They were glad to find that the bookstores are doing well with good traffic and that there is a new batch of students attending the fellowship. The nursery school connected to the church in Nyaporo is also doing well.

At present the churches are interviewing people for membership. Do pray that this

will in turn lead to election of office bearers, the calling and ordination of pastors, and the constitution of churches. Pray for each congregation as they seek to reach out to their communities and even to establish daughter churches.

Pray for the literature distributed and sold, for the radio messages going out in Swahili, and for the children and youth being taught in the churches in the nursery, Sunday school, and teens’ classes. Finally, please pray for the youth conference and vacation Bible school planned for the Christmas holidays.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy Gillespie reports that the churches in Nepal rejoice at the reopening of the church buildings in November. Once the Hindu festivals finished most restrictions were lifted and people are now able to come and fellowship once again in church. At the beginning, numbers were small, but each week more and more have returned to the house of God and some new people are also coming. Joy says, “It is such a blessing to once again sing God’s praises and hear the Word of God in fellowship one with the other.” Unfortunately, Sunday schools have not recommenced. Pray that in the new year they will be able to open again.

Joy has been travelling to hold ladies’ conferences and has enjoyed the special time to share the Word and hear how these ladies have coped during the disruptions. Pray for the ladies; keeping the household fed and clothed when money is in short supply is a difficult task. Pray that the economy that has been so badly affected will spring back quickly and that tourism and investment will start again.

Remember to pray for the readers of the newspaper articles Joy writes, that as they read each week they will grow in understanding of the Word of God. Joy thanks God that nearly every week a new reader writes to give his or her opinion or to ask a question about the article. Pray that God will open the eyes of these people to see the truth and liberty that are found in Christ Jesus. Pray for more to especially ask about the gospel in the articles. Some have asked about obtaining a Bible, but others have asked is God really perfect? Or is God really living? The gods they worship are so far removed from them that they can’t approach them. Pray that this door of service will be kept open for God’s glory.

Joy is returning to the U.K. for deputation meetings in the new year. Pray for her as she

travels around the countryside in Ulster presenting the need of the work in Nepal. Pray for journeying mercies and for acceptance in the various churches. She's struggling to get all the paperwork finished for the visa to allow her to leave before Christmas. Pray that God will intervene and that it will all be completed soon and she will receive a one-year visa.

Joy wishes all a blessed Christmas, that our hearts will be lifted up as we remember the wondrous story of God becoming man to redeem a people for Himself.

◆ South Korea

Seoul—*Seongkyu & Sooyoun Lee*

Seongkyu Lee says the Free Presbyterian church in Korea is in peace by the Lord's grace. They are praying for the weak within their congregation. Since August, the Korean government has enforced strong social distancing and it has hindered some from worshipping with them. Seongkyu has not been able to get in touch with them, and he believes there could be some personal reasons for it. They hoped that Jieun, who came to the church alone, would come back to church after her KSAT test, but they have been unable to reach her. The whole congregation is praying for her.

The church thanks the Lord that a high school freshmen student has come to the church. She had been attending a church rather far from home with her mother, but she wanted to attend a church closer to her home. In her search for a closer church she found the FP church and has been worshipping with them for some time. Seongkyu explains that most students in Korea are pressured and stressed from heavy studies and want to rest on the weekends. Young people find it hard to get up in the morning on Sundays and attend services. Please pray this young girl's desire to worship the Lord will continue.

Brother Chul Ahn found a new job after a two-year break but resigned because of a very ill-minded co-worker. He is praying sincerely for the Lord's guidance in his life. Pray that the Lord will give brother Chul Ahn a new job so that he can take care of his family.

Sam and Jung Lee have welcomed a healthy baby boy into their family whom they named Caleb (Jae Hyun in Korean). The church is thankful to the Lord for this healthy baby and the whole congregation enjoys seeing him every week. Seongkyu says "The Lord has blessed the church and our congregation through this family while they are in Korea."

Korea has relaxed its regulations on social distancing in November. However, because of the recent peak in COVID positives, the regulations have been enforced again. The FP church prays that no further deterioration will occur so that church worship is not restricted. The wider Korean church is facing a great challenge because of COVID. In the early days of the pandemic, churches came under harsh criticism in the media because COVID spread quickly in many churches that were still meeting. The negative attitude towards churches has continued. Seongkyu says it is a very unfair situation, but it is a trial that churches must face. He prays that Korean churches will turn back to the gospel and to Christ-centered preaching through this trial. May the Lord help the Korean FP church and all the FP churches in North America and around the world!

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—*Philip & Cherith Gardiner*

Philip Gardiner requests prayer for the English class and Bible study at the public housing unit. Those who attend are growing in their understanding of English. Pray with him that they would soon grasp the gospel. They held a carol service there on December 9 with their two daughters helping with the singing and instrumentals.

Pray also for the weekly online meetings with people in Pakistan, for the congregation as it ministers to an extended family each Tuesday evening, for a ladies' class each Monday, and for children who are being taught God's Word. Finally, please pray for their youth camp- before Christmas and for outreach efforts over the Christmas period.

Brethren, pray for us.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

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