

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



June 2022

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—Richard Craig & Randy Gunnings

Richard Craig and Randy Gunnings praise and glorify God for His great faithfulness and grace in their lives in Jamaica. They say God has been very merciful to the little flock in Little London. They are very thankful to God for His faithfulness in keeping and providing for them in very hard and challenging times. Please pray fervently that the God of all grace will move very mightily in an evangelistic way to change, transform, and grant to people a zeal for hearing and obeying His word. Pray that the Lord will grant great power and ability to preach, proclaim, teach, and declare His truth. Finally, pray that God will truly give wisdom, courage, and great steadfastness as they labor for Him.

◆ Dominican Republic

Los Frailes—Ramón & Wendy Sosa

The church in the Dominican Republic continues its program to read the Bible through in 52 weeks. Every day starting at 6 in the morning, a group of brothers meets virtually to read through a portion of the Bible. Recordings of the readings are available on Sermonaudio.com. Pray for the Lord's blessing on this effort both for the people of the church and for others who would join them.

They have had some visitors in the Sunday services recently. Some come because they are interested in knowing more about Reformed doctrine and about the church. Pray that the Lord will grant these visitors repentance and that they will be willing to join the church.

The preschool and daycare continue to function normally as they near the end of the school year. The twins have been enthusiastically assisting Wendy. The Sosas are

also preparing an activity with the children's parents and guardians when they will take advantage of the opportunity to continue evangelizing these families. Please pray that the school year will end well and that the Lord will bless the evangelistic activity. Pray also that re-registration, which begins in June for next year, will go well.

Pray for good health for Ramón and Wendy. Finally, please pray regarding Wendy's getting a teaching job through the ministry of education. She has not gotten a definitive answer regarding an appointment since she took the required exam.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle

Jason Boyle and Pablo Enciso were blessed to attend the Week of Prayer in Greenville at the beginning of May. Pablo is a prospective Geneva Reformed Seminary student. He is in the application process. Please pray that the Lord would guide in the logistics. His preference is to study in person in Greenville, but his studies may have to be a mix of online and in-person. Ruben is completing his first year of studies in GRS. He is preaching twice monthly in the afternoon services, and Pablo is teaching on Wednesday nights.

Jason has started a membership class with thirty people in attendance. The class will run over the course of a few months. Attendance at the church has increased due to a split about two months ago in a church across the city where a false teacher has been in place for years. The FP church in Mexico City has received many hurt and damaged families from that church over the years. It is their prayer that this man will not have influence over any more church bodies. Please pray for the families coming in, that the Lord would heal their wounds. Please also pray for salvation for Elena, Ixtla, and Isaac (the professional boxer) who have been attending faithfully for one or two years. They each are the adult children

of members of the church. Pray also for the salvation of long-time-attender Sergio.

The church will hold an evangelism workshop on a Saturday in June to evangelize and hand out tracts in the church's neighborhood. This workshop and evangelism day will be in preparation for an evangelistic trip to the remote village of Zongozotla, Puebla, in July. Approximately fifteen people have signed up to attend, including Danielle and the boys.

Two presbytery delegates are scheduled to go to Mexico in August for Lalo Pena's licensing. Pray that it will be a time of encouragement and blessing for Lalo and the people in his church.

Please continue praying for Pepe, who pastors a church in La Escalera, San Luis Potosi. Some months ago he left his secular job in order to dedicate himself more fully to pastoring the church. He has been looking to the Lord to provide for their needs (their living conditions are extremely basic; most people would consider them to be in poverty). The Lord has blessed them with a third baby on the way, so their needs are increasing. Pray for increase in God's provision as well.

The Boyles are in the beginning stages of planning the first part of their deputation and furlough. They hope to do deputation in Canada surrounding the October Week of Prayer, Lord willing. It will probably be September to mid-November. Pray for the Lord's guiding hand in the details (vehicle, accommodations, etc.). Jason says, "Our only experience doing deputation was as newlyweds twelve years ago. Now we are a family of four! It will be different!" They are still waiting on Jonathan's paperwork to move along, but there should be plenty of time to get it all in order for September. They also need to prepare a video or presentation. Pray that all their preparations will go smoothly.

EUROPE

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

The Solces request special prayer for their outreach children's summer day camp which they hold in July. Over the years, they have invited children from the community, but many were not allowed to attend or did not want to attend because they did not want anything to do with something "religious." Milos says this continues to be a great stigma in that society. Despite all that, by the grace of God, the Solces have been able to make inroads into the community and have more children attend. Last year, besides the children from the church, they had children from seven different homes, and two young girls made professions of faith as a result of the camp. They are praying that the Lord would bring some children again this year and that He would call them out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9) and deliver His own out of temptations (2 Peter 2:9).

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

The missionaries in Liberia were thankful for a recent gift from Ulster toward the diesel for running the generator in Duazon. That generator supplies the missionaries with electricity and also keeps the radio station running. Filling their 500-gallon tank cost \$1600 a few years ago; it now costs \$3000.

Dave DiCanio was able to hire one of the men in the church to help him run the radio station. That has given him much more time to read and study. It has also allowed him more time to start a men's meeting among a large group of single young men in the church.

Joanne Greer and Dave have been meeting somewhat regularly to seek to tie up the various loose ends for the Christian school pilot project. They are currently working through the *Parent-Student Handbook*, and a few other details. They were happy to be able to get some designs done in Ulster that Joanne brought back to Liberia with her. There are two pressing issues regarding the school. First, there has been a delay in the building construction for both the church and the schoolroom that their landlord is constructing. They are now into the rainy season, which makes any additional construction work chal-

lenging. Second, the increase in fuel costs has forced a rethinking of the budget for the school. Their hope is that the fuel prices will go down. As it stands, electricity is sporadic where it is available in Liberia. Even though the World Bank has a large electricity project going on in Liberia, Dave and Joanne expect they will still need a backup generator.

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne Greer arrived back in Liberia on April 13th after almost six months spent on furlough at home in Northern Ireland. She held 71 meetings throughout the Free Presbyterian churches in the UK and Ireland, as well as some rest and time with family and friends. She is thankful that travelling went quite smoothly, her COVID tests were negative pre- and post-flying, and all her luggage arrived safely.

Joanne says, "It was good to see everyone again at the church in Paynesville. There is still a steady trickle of visitors from the radio station—usually one or two first-time visitors per Sunday. I had quite a few new people to meet when I returned, which is really encouraging!"

Nathan Barco has been teaching the Sunday school children on the life of David during the past months, and he and Joanne gave them an oral test last Sunday as a conclusion to that series. They will be starting a series on the life and ministry of the apostle Paul next.

They are unable to hold the children's Friday Bible club at the moment, due to the lack of a venue, but Joanne is able to meet some of the children for an informal reading club in the bookstore each Thursday. Joanne says, "Pray for the children's work over the next few months please, that the Lord would guide us in the way that we should go in seeking to reach the children of the church and community. Please pray also for the school pilot project; Mr. DiCanio and I, with the North American Mission Board's approval, are moving forward with the intention of starting the preschool in September, but that does depend on getting the building finished, hiring suitable staff, and of course enrolling students!"

◆ Uganda

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen says she is grateful for all our prayers over the past few weeks. She had a very encouraging time on deputation and has now returned to the work at Emmanuel for approximately ten weeks to help with the second academic term. God willing, she will

return to Northern Ireland at the end of July to engage in a further round of deputation meetings. She would really value our prayers as she catches up after being away and also tries to prepare things in advance for her next period of absence.

The Lord undertook for all at the mission station while Noreen was away, and everyone really enjoyed the ministry of Rev. and Mrs. Maurice Baxter. All the school programs ran as expected, and Noreen says it was good to see all the boys and girls in class when she got back and the two new babies born to ladies on the support staff. Some of the men in the church were able to cover a few meetings as they awaited the arrival of Rev. and Mrs. Jonathan Creane, who accompanied her on her return journey. These three Ugandan brethren were also able to travel to Kenya for the recent pastors' conference organized by the Free Presbyterian Mission there. She says they were greatly encouraged by the teaching and fellowship.

Mr. and Mrs. Creane are helping for four weeks, covering the regular church meetings and assemblies. They have also been out on tract distribution and paid a visit to the local prison where four men waited behind after the service to seek salvation. She says they rejoice in this new opportunity and pray that a lasting work would be done in hearts and lives.

God-willing, Rev. Ray Carscadden will return mid-June to supply the pulpit. He is hoping to travel with his wife and family. Please pray that everything would go smoothly for them. She also asks us to pray for the Mission Board as they continue to arrange cover for the church at Emmanuel in the absence of a full-time pastor.

Finally, please pray for a couple of sick cases. Baby Elidard has had recurring problems for some months. Another neighbour, Muzee Peter, is HIV-positive and was recently hospitalized with infections. They both need the Lord's touch physically and spiritually.

◆ Kenya

Kitali—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

As the Pattersons reflect over the past two months, they acknowledge the goodness and help of the Lord in His work in Kenya. The planned conferences took place in the week before Easter. The Sunday school teachers' conference took place near to Kitale. All Sunday school teachers from Glory Bible Church attended the conference. Malcolm was the opening speaker at the conference. Margaret Russell taught on a number of occasions as well as some of the GBC pastors

and Alison Patterson. The youth conference took place at the end of that week at a school near the church in Nyaporo. Again, the pastors and the missionaries were the speakers. Over one hundred young people from all the GBC churches attended. The GBC motto text, 2 Peter 3:18, was chosen as the theme of the youth conference: “Growing in Grace.”

During Margaret Russell’s visit to Kenya, the parents’ days took place in the GBC and Bible Christian Faith Church congregations. Margaret was the guest speaker at some of those services. Alison Patterson spoke at the Nyaporo service to a packed congregation. Due to the condensed school year when three terms are being fitted into six months, only one day VBS could be planned. Margaret was the special speaker at some of those meetings.

On Easter Sunday, Malcolm conducted the communion service in Shimo la Tewa, and those from the congregation who had been baptized were received into membership. The next Lord’s Day, newly baptized individuals in Tantana were received into membership.

On Good Friday the shipment of 179 boxes of books from Northern Ireland finally arrived in Kitale. They had been in transit since November 2021. On Easter Monday morning the great box opening began! Pastor Patrice along with Chloe, Malcolm, and Alison began opening the boxes, sorting the books, and cataloguing them. Pastor Patrice’s interest was in obtaining new titles to take to the annual conference at Faith College of the Bible in Eldoret, where he was invited to have a book table. Mercy, who works in the Kiosk in Kitale, assisted with cataloguing and pricing of the very good second-hand Bibles that were sent.

In addition to second-hand material, some new books, including some for children, had been specially purchased and were in this consignment. Some of the boxes were from Revival Movement Association and included 25,000 copies of the Gospel of John which has been printed in Ekegusii, the language spoken in the Kisii area of southwestern Kenya. There were also copies of the Gospel of John in Pokot which were sent by Trinitarian Bible Society. Some of the brethren in BCFC worked on this translation.

To store these newly acquired books some additional bookcases were commissioned from a local carpenter who has supplied furniture for the Kakamega bookshop in the past. Some 2,500 books are presently on the shelves with some still to catalogue and store. The Pattersons are grateful for the generosity of God’s people in sending these books.

Two of the pastors, Patrice and Andrew, were invited by the Mission Board to attend the Mission Vision conference hosted by Lisburn FPC in May. The pastors enjoyed their visit to Northern Ireland and fellowshiping with the people there. They visited places of interest in the work, e.g., the Let the Bible Speak studios in Lurgan, Beulah bookshop in Newcastle, and the Revival Movement Association headquarters where the literature sent to Kenya is printed. They returned to Kenya with two members of the Mission Board, Rev. Ian Harris and Mr. Alistair Hamilton and the Moderator of the FPC, Rev. John Armstrong.

Mr. Harris and Mr. Armstrong had the privilege of conducting the constitution services in three of the GBC congregations, Shimo la Tewa, Tantana, and Nyaporo. They also were the main speakers at the annual pastors’ conference held in Kakamega. Around forty pastors attended this conference. They included GBC pastors, trainee pastors, and some from other like-minded churches. Three brethren travelled over from Emmanuel School in Uganda to be at the conference. A brother from South Sudan, the vice principal of Faith College of the Bible, and some Bible college students also attended. The men enjoyed the conference very much and were already talking about what they would like to see at the conference next year!

After the conference concluded, the visitors from Northern Ireland travelled to Nyaporo to see the pupils at Glory Christian ECDE Centre in Nyaporo where the young children sang and recited scripture and other items for their benefit.

The members of the Mission Board will be departing Kenya on June 1. Mr. Glenn Hamilton and his wife, Emma, and two children will be their next visitors towards the end of June. Glenn will be taking meetings for about a month while Malcolm and Alison take a break in Northern Ireland.

Continue to pray for Glory Bible Church as these newly constituted churches now give consideration to the election of office bearers and in due course issuing a call to a pastor. Pray for the pastors, trainee pastors, and the GBC central committee. Pray for the Sunday school teachers and the teens’ teachers and pupils. Pray also for the ECDE in Nyaporo as some forty pupils have now enrolled; pray also for the staff.

The bookshops need your prayers also. Pray for the staff: Josephine, Gladys, Mercy, and Jared and others who help out on occasion. Jack, a graduate from the local university who fellowshiped with Kakamega GBC,

has returned to Kakamega after being at his home in Nairobi. He is presently helping in the bookshop and plans to do further study at MMUST university.

Pray for Malcolm as he continues with the administration work and accounting, for his role in guiding the pastors and the congregations over the next stage in the development of the churches, and his continued supervision of the production of LTBS radio broadcasts. Remember the pastors as they prepare and record. The literature ministry at the agricultural shows stopped during the pandemic and has not as yet resumed. They are praying that as COVID restrictions have been relaxed that the Kitale show will resume this year; generally, it takes place in October.

Pray for Alison as she assists Malcolm with administration, oversees the organization of books sent, the copying of literature, and production of material for the nursery school in Nyaporo and for the teens’ classes in the churches. She has been invited to speak at the ladies’ meetings in Nyaporo, where she plans to teach on the doctrines of salvation. She taught that before in Kitale to the BCFC churches in that region which culminated in a graduation service for some forty ladies.

Malcolm and Alison close, “Pray for additional workers both Kenyan and from the FPC congregations in the UK and US to come and help us. Pray for our family at home and Alison’s mother.”

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy Gillespie has been on deputation in Ulster since Christmas, travelling around the churches sharing about the work in the land of Nepal. She thanks God for His presence in the meetings and for the support—both prayerful and financial—that has been raised for the next few years to keep her on the mission field. Pray that God will continue to presence Himself with her as she finishes the meetings at the end of June. Pray also that she will have a blessed time of rest in July before returning to Nepal in August.

When she returns, she needs to renew her business visa. Pray that she won’t have any problems renewing it since the business has been closed for the past few months while she was at home. Pray for new students and for wisdom in hiring a new English teacher to give Joy more time to travel and participate in ladies’ conferences and teacher training.

In November the Nepalese people will vote for a new prime minister and parliament. Pray that God will keep the door of evangelism open as some Hindu parties desire to return Nepal to a Hindu state, which would hinder evangelism and the work in the church. Pray that the open door of witness will be maintained for the extension of the gospel.

Remember the weekly newspaper articles. Joy continues to write them even though she's in Ulster. Pray for the Word as it goes forward, that God will use it to sow seeds of truth in the hearts of the readers and to bring them to a knowledge of Christ.

Sarita, the young lady who is studying to be a doctor, has her last exams this month. Pray that God will help her. After the exams, she has a six-month placement in Bangladesh to qualify for her doctor's certificate, but then she needs to return to Nepal and repeat the last six months' placement to qualify for the certificate in Nepal. Pray that God will strengthen her during the busy months ahead. Her desire is still to reach the village areas and do day clinics bringing much-needed medical assistance to the people in remote areas.

Pray for Rev. Paul Thapa and the members of presbytery that as the situation in Nepal returns to normal the Bible college courses can recommence as well as the youth and pastoral conferences in autumn and then next spring. Pray that God will give the men wisdom in leading the churches and be that picture of godliness that will encourage those following to serve God. Thank you for remembering Nepal in your prayers.

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—Philip & Cherith Gardiner

Philip Gardiner requests prayer for families in the congregation in Perth who are going through very testing times. Please also pray for new families to be brought in and for the Lord to work in the hearts of those who attend the church's English class and Bible study.

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

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