

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



October 2022

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—*Richard Craig & Randy Gunnings*

Richard Craig is happy to say that the mission's outreach in local schools, which was discontinued for over two years during the pandemic, has now been allowed to resume. At present they are privileged to lead the students in devotional times at four schools: St. Paul's Primary, Broughton Primary, Moreland Hill Primary, and Little Bay All-age.

Please pray earnestly for them as they labor in these schools and face many difficult challenges as they minister to the children. Just this past week, a twelve-year-old boy from Broughton Primary School took his own life, allegedly due to family abuse. A fifteen-year-old girl stabbed her classmate to death over relationships matters. There are even many instances of students fighting the teachers in the classroom. Richard says such things are almost daily occurrences, and much prayer is needed.

Please pray for Richard as he nears the end of his seminary studies. He says he has learned much and yet has much more to learn. He wants to thank Rev. Myron Mooney and Rev. Geoff Banister for their time spent lecturing him.

Please pray that the work at the mission will continue and that the Lord in His sovereign plan may add such people as should be saved to His kingdom.

◆ Dominican Republic

Los Frailes—*Ramón & Wendy Sosa*

The church in Los Frailes continues to advance in the proclamation of the gospel through its on-site services on Sundays and Wednesdays and over the internet thanks to SermonAudio, which makes it possible for it to stream live as well as archived content.

Ramón has received several testimonials from people who have connected to the sermons and Bible studies that he transmits through various platforms on the internet. Six people in the last two weeks have asked for information about the church and have wanted to learn more about the Reformed faith. He has also had conversations with other people about the gospel and has given them some brochures about Christianity and also some catechisms.

Ramón continues to disciple brother José Miguel, especially working with him in organizing his personal life and his work schedule. Ramón has also shared with him and other men about male leadership in the home and in the church. José recently had to go to the emergency room because of a very high fever and was treated for an infection. Please pray for the complete restoration of health.

Pray for the evangelistic work the Sosas are doing with parents and children in the preschool and daycare. Pray for revival in the congregation. Finally, please pray for Ramón's ordination and the church constitution service, which are both planned for January 2023.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—*Jason & Danielle Boyle*

The Boyles are in the middle of their Canadian deputation. They are thankful that Jonathan's Mexican passport came in a week before their trip. They started deputation by flying into Vancouver and driving up to Prince George, where there was a lot of interest in the work and where they enjoyed meeting many new people. After that, they spent two Sundays in Cloverdale and one prayer meeting in Penticton where they enjoyed much fellowship. They then headed over to Calgary for the Week of Prayer. Jason presented the work on the Sunday before the Week of Prayer. He and Danielle were very encouraged by Rev. Paul Backhurst's ministry, as well as by their fellowship with the congregation and their prayers on various occasions. They still have the Ontario churches to visit before heading

home to Mexico on November 4. They are praying that God will use these visits to raise the funds to purchase the property needed to properly serve their congregation in Mexico City as well as the developing Latin American presbytery and seminary.

Jason says back home in Mexico things continue as usual. He and Danielle have been encouraged by reports of the Lord's presence during the Sunday services. The pulpit has been supplied partially by some men from their sister church in Sonora and also by their two seminary students. Danielle has started a Bible study with two young ladies of the church via Zoom while they are traveling; the study will be in person when the Boyles get back home.

Plans are in place for Jason and a delegation of men from the FPCNA to go to the Dominican Republic in January for Ramón Sosa's ordination and the church's constitution. They also plan to hold their third Latin American Week of Prayer (the second one for families) at the end of January. They are praying for God's provision to get Ramón's family to Mexico for the first time for this time of fellowship.

Danielle is planning a Reformation get together for the Sunday school students and teachers for a week after they get back to Mexico. It will include games and a first-person account of Martin Luther's life presented by one of the men of the church.

When the Boyles get back to Mexico, they will begin the processes for Jonathan's Canadian citizenship and Jason and Danielle's Mexican citizenship. Jason says, "Pray for God's grace as our lives seem to be a series of paperwork and processes. We calculate about another five years of paperwork ahead of us for both Jonathan and Caleb. We are so thankful for the prayers of God's people."

Córdoba—*Lalo & Liz Peña*

Lalo Peña thanks God for the visit of the delegation composed of Rev. Myron Mooney, Rev. Derrick Bowman, and Rev. Jason Boyle

that was commissioned by the presbytery to visit the work in Córdoba August 19–22, 2022, to license Lalo as a Free Presbyterian minister.

At the beginning of October, Lalo was thankful to be able to attend the Week of Prayer and presbytery meetings in Calgary where he enjoyed fellowship, solid preaching of God's Word, and prayer. The presbytery approved the application of Lalo's church for constitution as a Free Presbyterian church. The constitution service will probably take place sometime in January 2023.

Once the church is constituted, it will be able to issue an official call to Lalo to be its minister. That call will then come before the presbytery at its May meetings in Toronto. In the will of the Lord, once Lalo accepts the call, a commission of presbytery will be appointed to go to Córdoba to ordain him. Please pray for the Lord to keep His hand upon Lalo in all his responsibilities and to bless the church as it seeks to go forward for the Lord.

In September, Lalo began a new work in the neighboring state of Puebla where he is seeking to disciple a family along with some of their friends. The Díaz Jiménez family comes from a Charismatic background and has known some very difficult times. Mrs. Concepción Hernández and Manolo Santos, who have a Roman Catholic background, have also shown interest. Pray for the Lord's blessing as Lalo ministers to this group through online services, and as he visits twice a month. Pray for protection, wisdom, the needed financial resources for travel, and for help to preach to a broader group of people. Lalo says, "May God be glorified in Ciudad Victoria and the rural community of Cuauhtémoc in the state of Puebla. At this point there are only Charismatic churches in these places. Your prayers for Córdoba and these places are so coveted, brethren."

Continue to pray for Liz as she deals with Huntington's disease. She is doing well right now. Pray also for their family. They rejoice that their daughter, Pamela, and her husband, Abdiel, are expecting a baby in answer to prayer.

EUROPE

◆ Spain

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

John and Noranna express their gratitude to all who pray faithfully for them and the work in Spain. At present the minister of the church, Angel Alvarez, is in Northern Ireland on deputation. His absence gives John the

opportunity to preach more frequently as well as to look after the pastoral visitation in the church.

After the past trials in which some people left the church, they are now receiving many visitors. One family from a presbyterian church in Columbia, who have a ten-month-old son, have asked to transfer their membership. Another believer from Venezuela has also asked to transfer his membership.

The Lord has also been working among the youth of the church. One young man has asked to be baptized. A young woman has recently been saved through a weekly Bible study that John had been doing with her. Please pray for the rest of the youth of the church that the Lord will touch them and give them the conviction to become members in the church.

The Lord continues to bless the work in Toledo. Some Sabbath mornings they have over fifty people attending, although fewer come to the evening service. The Friday night Bible study and prayer time is usually well attended. Pray for Rev. Mark Witte and the elders that they will know the Lord's leading concerning the future of the work.

Just over a year ago a young minister and his family from Brazil came to work with the church in Toledo with the intention of commencing a new work as the Lord would lead. In the leading of the Lord they have recently moved to the city of Aranjuez, forty kilometres (25 miles) southeast of Alcorcón and approximately the same to the east of Toledo. A family from Aranjuez has been attending the church in Toledo, and they are prepared to work with Rev. Rafael Oliveira in that new work. They would appreciate the prayers of God's people for the new challenge.

Finally, the Hannas ask God's people to continue to stand with them at the throne of grace, praying for God's will to be done and the Lord's name to be glorified.

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

The Solces give glory to the Lord for the progress in the faith that the people in the work are showing, and they thank the Lord for His sustenance and preservation.

They were recently encouraged as two children from their outreach children's summer day camp started attending some services throughout the summer and then also came for the first time with their mother. Just after the camp, another woman started coming to the church with her two daughters, ages nine and twelve. She attended one service several

years ago, but then did not return. At the beginning of this summer she started attending regularly. Milos says these are all needy souls who need much prayer to overcome the challenges and attacks of their godless society that would attempt to frustrate and prevent them in following after the Lord. The Solces are in earnest prayer for the salvation of these souls in their midst and recognize that their coming is in answer to many prayers.

Please also pray for their Sabbath school and Bible classes, which they have just recommenced with an increased number of people after the two years of COVID greatly hampered that ministry. A final prayer request is for the students who are part of the church as they have gone back to university and school. Pray that the Lord's hand would be upon them and that they would be the Lord's witnesses.

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

Dave DiCanio recently baptized one of the young men in the church who had been saved through the ministry of the radio station and then started coming to the church. He wept as he shared his testimony before his baptism. Pray for many more souls to be reached through the radio station. The new program "Man on the Street," which airs conversations Dave has with people while he witnesses on the street, continues to get a good response. He recently had some interesting exchanges with three Muslim youths.

The landlord has made some progress on the church/school building behind the bookstore. He has leveled the floor and put in his final pillars. The missionaries trust that since the dry season is on its way, the roof will soon go on.

The unfinished building has been an obstacle to getting the school underway; however, another hard reality may now impede the school's opening. The economy in Liberia is very bad right now, and parents may not be able to afford to send their children to the school. The economic problems may also cause civil unrest. Rice is in short supply right now and prices are high. High rice prices were one of the major causes for Liberia's fourteen-year civil war.

Rice prices are high, but thankfully, the price for diesel fuel to run the generator at the compound in Duazon has come down a little. The price for five hundred gallons was \$3,400; it is now \$2,800. The missionar-

ies hope it will go back down to \$2,000 or even lower. They rely on the generator for electricity.

Sadly, someone broke into the compound on the weekend of September 10–11 and stole about eighty gallons of diesel fuel. They climbed the back corner wall of the compound and broke into the generator room. They were careful to put the window bars back in place so that the break-in wasn't noticed at first. When the levels were checked on Monday, the missionaries were surprised to find the tank nearly empty and the generator ready to go off. Pray much for the Lord's protection of the missionaries and the mission property in Liberia.

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

A few new children who attended the VBS in August have come quite regularly to Sunday school and reading club since then. Please pray that they will continue to attend, even when the novelty wears off. Sunday school is still being held on the porch of the bookstore, and the Thursday reading club is held inside the bookstore. Joanne is very thankful that there has not been one Sunday throughout the rainy season (which is about to end) when services had to be cancelled due to heavy rain.

Joanne is once again doing volunteer nursing a few hours a week in a local hospital in order to be able to keep her nursing license when it comes up for renewal. She's currently helping on a pediatric ward where about half of the patients are admitted with severe acute malnutrition. Joanne says there are some heart-breaking cases. Please pray that as well as helping physically, she will be able to witness to some of the staff and mothers.

◆ Uganda

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen thanks you for your continued prayer support. She has just returned to Uganda having completed the second half of her deputation meetings in Northern Ireland. She says it was a joy to renew fellowship with God's people and to spend time with her family.

During her absence, the church family and school in Uganda enjoyed the company and ministry of Dr. Nigel Campbell, his wife, Caroline, and Miss Elizabeth Edwards, a missionary student at the Whitefield College of the Bible. Mr. David McAuley, another WCB student, his wife, Rachel, and their two young children also covered the mission station for some weeks and ran two vacation Bible schools during the school recess.

Mr. Noel Shields, a full-time evangelist

with the FPC Mission Board, was able to supply the pulpit for the remaining time and was still on the ground when Noreen got back. He had opportunity to move around in the community and to share the gospel from house to house.

Now they are looking forward to the arrival of Mr. Trevor Wylie, who is coming to minister for some weeks in October and November. Noreen says she is truly grateful to these folks for giving of their time and talents to help the work at Emmanuel, and she prays that there will be lasting fruit from their labors.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual needs of the students, staff, parents, and neighbors at the mission station. Please also remember the students who will sit for their primary, O-level, and A-level exams in the next few weeks.

Two members of staff—Master George and Master Ronald—have weddings planned for December and would appreciate prayer for the many preparations that need to be made.

Finally, Noreen asks us to pray for Rev. Ray Carscadden and his family. He has been accepted as a missionary candidate for Uganda and has begun raising the necessary support. Noreen says this is a tremendous answer to prayer.

◆ Kenya

Kitali—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

On the Pattersons' return to Kenya after a short break in Northern Ireland they stayed in Nairobi to attend to necessary business and to visit the newly convened Glory Bible Church at Juja Farm on the outskirts of Nairobi. This area is not a farm today, but in the past it was a farm of 19,000 acres. The new church is the sixth of the Glory Bible churches at which Malcolm preaches in turn. At present the Juja Farm congregation consists of Rev. Kiarie, his wife, and four children, and a former MMUST student who is now engaged in further study at Nairobi University. Pastor Patrice spent a few days with Rev. Kiarie doing evangelism, and during that time another student promised to attend the services. Please pray for this church planting endeavor in the capital of Kenya.

Continue to pray for the pastors in their pastoral work, evangelism, and radio ministry. Each of the pastors uses a book table as part of his evangelistic outreach. The mission recently received some excellent material with the shipment of books from Northern Ireland facilitated by the Mission Board and Revival Movement Association. These books

have been sent to the pastors doing book tables and to the bookshops in Kakamega and Kitale. A Facebook page called "Beulah Christian Bookshop" has been set up to advertise the Beulah Christian Literature ministry.

On October 26–29 the Kitale Agricultural Show will open again after two years closure due to the COVID pandemic. Please pray for this event when much literature can be distributed, new contacts made, old acquaintances renewed, and the radio ministry, book ministry, and the Glory Bible Church can be advertised. Pray for the Kenyan team as they work with the Pattersons in preparation for the show and during the time spent there.

Remember the nursery school at Nyaporo as it approaches its second graduation service in November. In particular, remember the staff—Franciska, Phoebe, and Margaret (the cook)—at this time. Each of them has experienced family difficulties in the past month. Franciska's brother-in-law was killed in an accident; Phoebe's father-in-law, Peter, who is the founder of the Nyaporo church, has been ill; and Margaret's young son is in hospital very ill with severe malaria. Pray much for the healing touch on their loved ones and for the comfort of God to be upon them.

Next year the school terms in Kenya will return to the normal length, though the holidays will still be a little shorter. Pray for the conferences and outreach endeavors being planned for the holiday periods for the remainder of this year and next year. A teens' and youth rally is being planned for October during the half-term break as well as a men's one-day conference. All outreach this year has been greatly curtailed due to the condensing of the school year to compensate for the time when schools were closed in 2020.

Pray for the people in Kenya as they struggle to survive the aftermath of COVID's affect on the economy. Pray also that the Ebola virus spreading in Uganda will be contained and not cross into Kenya; much of the Western area of Kenya borders Uganda and there are many crossing points. Pray too for the new president of Kenya as he and the newly elected governors of each of the 47 counties take up their responsibilities. Pray that honesty and transparency will be evident in this term of office. Finally, remember the Pattersons' family at home, especially their sons and daughter-in-law as they see to Alison's mother's needs. Malcolm and Alison are thankful to all who support them in the place of prayer.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy Gillespie says she has been busy since returning to Nepal from deputation in Ulster, but it is good to be back in the thick of it. Thankfully the monsoon rains have finished and this year there wasn't any flooding around her home. However, in the past few days the country has experienced unseasonable rains that have caused many landslides and over ten deaths with some people still missing. Pray for the families who have lost loved ones that they will know the comfort of the eternal God.

On Friday a group of men from the Mission Board will arrive in Nepal to open a new church building and to preach at the young people's conference. Pray for Joy and the rest of the group as they travel into the Chitwan district that God will keep them safe especially after the heavy rain. Pray for the new church opening that the service will be a time of blessing and encouragement for the congregation.

The group also hopes to visit other congregations in the area before returning to Kathmandu for the conference meetings. Pray for Rev. Jonathan Creane and Rev. David McMillan as they preach God's Word October 18–20. This will be the first conference since the pandemic. Pray for those who will travel from across Nepal to attend the meetings. Pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit at every meeting and that these will be times of refreshing and encouragement for all and also for the church in Kathmandu.

Keep the English Institute before the throne of grace, as Joy searches for a qualified teacher. Pray that God will lead her to the one of His choosing. Pray also that God will keep students coming through the doors.

Remember the Precious Children's Home, that God will have mercy on the children and bring them into fellowship with Him early in life. Pray for those who have left the home, that God will keep them safe and attending the churches in their areas and that they will be a help to those in charge. Pray that God will help them find work and be profitable members of their communities.

In November Nepal will vote for a new prime minister. Pray for peaceful elections. Pray that the door of evangelism will be maintained and even opened farther for complete freedom of religion.

Joy says, "Thank you for your continued support for the work of God here in Nepal. We thank God for the souls saved in recent days and pray that God's power would continue to be felt despite the opposition to the gospel."

◆ South Korea

Seoul—Seongkyu & Sooyoun Lee

Seongkyu Lee says August was a very difficult season in South Korea because of intense heat and humidity. Most churches hold retreats in August when people can best use their vacation time. The Free Presbyterian church had planned to have its church retreat in mid-August as well and was really looking forward to it because they hadn't been able to have one the last three years. It had to be postponed, however, because COVID-19 cases were up again in Korea in August and some families in the church tested positive. They thank the Lord that they were able to have their retreat on October 2–3. It was a time for them to invite people around them who wanted to hear the gospel and to talk together. Their Bible study was on 1 Peter. The retreat became a time of spiritual challenge, recovery, and repentance for the members.

Seongkyu has resumed gospel classes for college students and youth in the second semester. The church is still praying for youth to be reborn in the gospel. Seongkyu says, "As Korean society is becoming more and more secular, it is very important to pray for the souls of our young people, and we are praying together that our children will be saved in our families." Please pray with them for the regeneration of their children and that they would see other souls saved as well.

Seongkyu is grateful that one sister who left the church during the pandemic period a year ago repented of her lack of faith and has contacted the church. She needs to grow spiritually, and the church people are praying that she will soon return to the services.

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—Philip & Cherith Gardiner

Philip Gardiner requests prayer for the Lord's help in preaching and for the Lord to touch hearts. Pray also for new families to come in and for the Lord's blessing on the children's and youth meetings in the last term of this year. Finally, please pray for the ongoing radio outreach in the Philippines and for wisdom regarding their contacts in Pakistan.

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