

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



October 2023

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—Richard Craig

Many hearts in the congregation in Little London are still grieving the loss of Sharlene Campbell, but they rejoice that she is in a better place with the Lord. Since the church's building was too small, Sharlene's funeral was held across the road from them at the larger facility of the New Testament Church of God. It is estimated that over 250 persons attended, and Richard was able to share the Word of God with them. Please continue to pray for Sharlene's family.

For some years now, Randy Gunnings and his wife have lamented that because they lived so far away, they were not able to attend the Sunday evening services, prayer meeting and Bible study on Wednesday nights, and the children's meetings on Friday nights. Happily, they have recently been able to move back to Little London.

◆ Dominican Republic

Santo Domingo—Ramón & Wendy Sosa

Rev. Ramón Sosa reports that the church in the Dominican Republic continues to hold its regular services on Sundays and Wednesdays. Plans are underway to begin holding meetings on Saturdays with young people in the church's neighborhood. The goal is to have a time of games and fellowship and then close with a brief exposition from scripture by Ramón. They plan to start the meetings in late October or early November. Please pray for the Lord's help and blessing.

The new school year began with an enrollment of a total of forty children in the preschool and daycare. They have had a considerable increase in children in the daycare which has led them to have to hire new staff. The Sosas thank the Lord for allowing them to serve the community through this

program. Pray for wisdom in reaching the families of children who are in daycare and preschool. For this, they are using the Spanish translation of the booklet *A New Beginning* by Dr. Alan Cairns.

So far, Wendy has not had an answer regarding the teaching appointment. She is to have a meeting with some political leaders to see whether they can help her with the appointment. Please pray that it will go well and that she will succeed in getting the benefits.

Some brothers of the church have been sick. Emilio had to be rushed to the hospital because of a stroke but is now recovering at home. Alberto also had to be rushed to the hospital due to circulation problems and high blood pressure. He was hospitalized for several days and is now at home. Please pray that their health will be fully restored.

At the end of September Ramón participated with other pastors from various churches in a two-day intensive program on the gospel. They shared some ideas on how to bring the gospel to their communities. Pray that the Lord will bless their efforts to the saving of many souls in the Dominican Republic.

Finally, please pray for wisdom for Ramón to be able to correctly teach the Word of God, both in the church and in his contacts on the street. Pray also for financial provision to continue supporting his family and for faithfulness of the brethren of the church in their offerings for the support of the church.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle

Jason and Danielle Boyle say God has been giving them a blessed deputation. They spent almost two weeks in Spain, visiting the works in Madrid, Cortijos Nuevos, and Toledo, and were encouraged by the fellowship there.

They arrived in Northern Ireland on September 1, where they had twelve meetings in September and are scheduled for 22 meetings in October. So far, ten meetings are scheduled for November. They will also be taking part in

a missions conference. The Boyles plan to fly home around November 21.

The meetings have been going over well and the Boyles are encouraged by the prayers and interest of God's people. Danielle and the boys are attending almost all of the meetings along with Jason. The boys are holding up well considering the late nights, all the moving around, and the repetitive nature of the meetings. They are keeping up with their schoolwork during the day and are taking some days here and there to enjoy the beautiful sights that Ulster has to offer. Jason is enjoying extra meetings with elders and pastors and teaching a one-day class at Whitefield College of the Bible on culture and contextualization in missions. The Boyles say they are enjoying the change of pace but at the same time are looking forward to heading home and continuing with the labor there.

Córdoba—Lalo & Liz Peña

Lalo Peña thanks God for the opportunity to be in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the first week in October for the FPCNA Ministers' Week of Prayer and Presbytery meetings. He says it was a powerful time of communion, preaching, and prayer.

Please continue to pray for the plans to remodel the church's meeting place. The church is confident and praying the project will be accomplished as soon as possible.

Pray for Martha Hernandez and her children Samuel (15) and Romina (24), who attend the church. They were involved in a Judaizing movement for several years. Pray for Samuel, who has a growing brain cyst complicating possible surgery for a heart valve problem. He recently confessed his faith in Christ. Pray for his sister, Romina, who was recently fired from her job (a job that was keeping her from attending church regularly). Pray also for their older brother, Juan Emilio (26), who is openly hostile to the Christian faith and has some suicidal thoughts.

Pray for Lety Colina, who has been fighting depression, and for the salvation of her

husband, Julio, and her children, Julio and Mariana, both married and so far, unchurched.

Please, pray for Lalo, Jr., who decided not to take the work offered in Mexico City but to remain in Córdoba. The economic situation is complicated, but Lalo, Sr., says they trust the Lord will bless him and the rest of the church's families. Continue to pray for Pamela and Abdiel, who have been attending a Pentecostal church but are considering changing to Coram Deo FPC.

Lalo thanks God that his wife, Liz, is doing well. Please pray for their teenage sons Uriel (15) and, especially, Gadiel (13). Pray also for Lalo's mother, Celina (87), who is very active in the church.

EUROPE

◆ Spain

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

The Hannas thank every believer who prays for them and for the work in Spain. The Lord is faithful, hearing and answering the prayers of His people. The Lord has been working in hearts. Two of the young people in the church in Alcorcón have been baptized and received into the membership. Pray that the Lord will use this to stir others to follow their example. Another couple (Asdrubal and Victoria) have transferred their membership. Asdrubal has preached at the mid-week meeting, and John believes he could well serve in the future as an elder. Two other families are presently doing a discipleship course with the view of joining the church.

The work in Toledo continues to enjoy the Lord's blessings. About 35 meet for the morning service. The numbers drop some in the evening service. There is a constant flow of visitors to the services. Pray the Lord will work in the hearts of believers so there will be a willingness to commit to the work on a permanent basis and that souls will be brought to faith in Christ. They have a weekly Bible class and Sabbath school on Sabbath afternoons before the evening service.

John has been busy helping in Aranjuez. Some time back a weekly Bible study and prayer meeting commenced in Rafael's home. With his wife and three children they have between ten and fifteen attending on a regular basis. A building has been rented which required quite a bit of renovation. John has worked with Rafael each day for over a month. The building is practically completed.

They plan, in the will of the Lord, to have the official inauguration on October 21. Please pray the Lord will strengthen those who have

been attending the mid-week meeting and that others will come and join in this new work. Pray souls will be saved and added to the church.

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

The Solces thank the Lord for His continued provision and sustenance and look to Him for the future.

At the beginning of July they held their outreach children's summer day camp and had a few new children attend. That opened doors into new homes and families. They thank the Lord for every such opportunity as otherwise the doors are closed and there is a deep antipathy towards anything "religious."

During the summer a few new visitors came to the church worship services and continue to come. Pray that the Lord would bless the ministry to their hearts and lives.

At the beginning of August it was a special blessing for the Solces as a family to visit their home church in Toronto, to attend the young adult conference hosted by the church, and to renew fellowship with the brethren there. They especially thank Dr. Larry Saunders and his wife, Jill, for their generosity and kindness towards them and for keeping them in their home. The Solces were also able to visit the churches in Port Hope and Barrie to bring an update on the work and to minister the Lord's Word.

Please pray as they have begun another year of the Sabbath school and Bible class as well as their little Christian day school. The motto text for the new school year is Psalm 34:11: "Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord."

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

Rev. Dave DiCanio continues to preach and teach, do the accounting work and government paperwork, and keep up with the ever-increasing maintenance work on the compound in Duazon. Since coming back from vacation in the States, he has been attempting to catch up with the work.

The local electricity company has begun to distribute single-phase meters in the community around the compound, but unfortunately, it has decided not to distribute three-phase meters yet. Dave has been told the mission compound requires a three-phase meter because of its heavier load with the

radio station. Once they get electricity, it should cut the running costs down significantly, although it is very likely the current will not be consistent.

The building project in Paynesville began to move forward again a few months ago when the cement roof was poured. The landlord has now finished his part of the project, and it has been handed over to Dave to oversee the inside work. The well has been reinforced and a pressure pump and water tank installed, razor wire installed on the compound wall, preliminary electrical work done, and under-floor plumbing is done. Plastering is in process, windows and doors are ordered, and the cement floor is soon to be poured. They have been using the unfinished building for meetings since mid-August, moving from one room to another as necessary.

The radio station is still running 24 hours a day, and they still get frequent visitors to the church because of it. Regular attenders at the church also testify that they are being blessed and edified through the preaching and teaching on the station. Please continue to pray for this wonderful means of outreach into the greater Monrovia area.

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

The mission church in Liberia held its annual vacation Bible school August 14–18 with 145 children divided into two groups. The seniors studied "What is a Christian?" and the juniors the "I Am" sayings of Christ. They were thankful to be able to hold the VBS in the new (though still unfinished) building. Dave DiCanio, Nathan Barco, and Joanne taught the lessons, and several other adults from the church assisted.

They restarted the Friday Bible club the week after VBS, after almost two years of a break due to the building situation. The thirty-plus children who have been attending include a few new children brought in from the VBS, which is an answer to prayer. Sunday school and the reading club continue as usual.

At the beginning of September the opportunity arose for Joanne to teach the children of two church families in a possible route into starting the Christian school. The Ministry of Education has given permission for her to do this in an unofficial capacity at this time, with a view to obtaining an operational permit perhaps sometime during this school year, once they have completed a couple of assessments. Although this would be a different route to getting a school started than Joanne had anticipated, it has its own set of benefits and has potential to grow into a

school of the ethos and quality for which she has been preparing.

One of the main differences is that they are experimenting with using a forms model, which means that in the twelve years that children usually spend in school, they pass through four forms rather than twelve grades. They spend approximately three years in each form, and promotion from form to form is mastery-based. Some subjects are taught to the whole form together (such as Bible, history, science, art, and music), and in other subjects (such as math and language arts) the students are taught individually or in very small groups.

This gives a lot more flexibility within each form to address individual needs of students and help them to catch up in specific subjects where they are struggling or have not been well taught. This is one main reason for Joanne's desire to try this model in Liberia. Another reason is that the forms model takes away the pressure to move children from grade to grade each year, which in Liberia often leads to "teaching to the test" or even to bribery. Although the forms model has been and is being used in other countries, it has not been tried before in Liberia, according to the Ministry of Education. So this is an experiment, and Joanne is very excited to be part of it!

Classes started on September 18, with two children in Form 1, three children in Form 2, and one member of support staff. They have been praying that the Lord would open the doors for a school in His way and time and are eager to see where this open door leads.

◆ Uganda

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen thanks the Lord for His continued mercy and grace. She says the school staff were greatly blessed through Mrs. Foster's lectures on Christian education and pray for God's help and wisdom to practice daily all that was taught.

They are now well into the third and final term of the school year. Noreen asks us to remember the Senior Four and Primary Seven candidates who will sit for their O-level and Primary Leaving examinations on October 6 and November 8 respectively. All the other classes will also do end-of-year assessments to qualify for the next class.

Noreen says it is a busy term, but they are looking to the Lord to carry them through. Pray that God would be glorified, not just in the academic achievements, but in the salvation and spiritual growth of the students.

Kiyimba Shalif, one of their bursary students, recently passed his final examinations for the Certificate in Comprehensive Nursing. Noreen thanks God for His goodness to this young man and also requests prayer for the other fourteen young people who are enrolled in various vocational courses.

The outreach Sunday school in Kyambala II began on August 6. Over 160 children are already on the roll. Most are from Roman Catholic and Muslim homes and have little or no knowledge of the Bible. A couple of parents have attended including a Muslim lady who has come on several occasions. Pray that the children would attend regularly, that the light of the gospel would shine into their darkened hearts, and that God would provide a better location for the Sunday school. They are currently meeting in a small garage and spilling out onto the ground in front.

As an update on previous requests, Noreen says that Douglas and Victoria were blessed with a healthy baby boy, but sadly, Ronald and Jascent's baby girl was stillborn. Meanwhile, their little leukemia patient, Nassiwa Sylvia, has commenced her third round of chemotherapy and continues to make progress. Please keep all these families in prayer.

Nsaalu—Ray & Rhonda Carscadden

The Carscaddens have been in Uganda for over three months now and say it has been a time of much activity and blessing. In August, the first Ugandan pastors' conference went well with approximately sixty men in attendance, including some men from Kenya. The FPC of Ulster's Mission Board secretary, Rev. David McMillan, and the Moderator, Rev. John Armstrong, participated along with Rev. Ray Carscadden. The theme was "Pastoring a Healthy Church."

The following Lord's Day, a special welcome service was held for the Carscaddens with Mr. McMillan leading the service and Mr. Armstrong preaching and offering prayer for them. Since that time there have been many blessings and tokens for good. They have seen some souls saved and others showing an interest in the gospel.

The weekly prison ministry has been very encouraging. Two men there recently professed faith in Christ. One had been heavily involved in witchcraft and the other had been a Muslim. Both men had been transferred to the prison just the day before. The prisoners requested that the church supply them with hymn books so that they could sing hymns during the week. Mr. Carscadden says when he visited the prison for the first time last year

and passed out hymn sheets, the prisoners pretended that they couldn't read. An amazing change has occurred in that place since then. One prisoner said it is now a common sight to see men all around the prison reading their Bibles when they get an opportunity.

Mr. Carscadden gives all glory to God for these blessings and is thankful for prayer for his family and for the work at Emmanuel.

◆ Kenya

Kitale—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

The visit of the Youth Council Team from Northern Ireland in August went well. The team members were kept busy as they visited the different areas of the work in Kenya. The first week was spent on the Kitale side visiting the three churches there. A youth conference was held on Thursday when the youth from all three congregations attended. In addition, the team members went on outreach and visited in some of the homes of the congregations.

After the first week, the team headed to Kakamega where there are two churches. They took part in Sunday school, church, VBS, prayer meetings, and a youth conference held in the church in Nyaporo.

One of the team members, Elizabeth Edwards, who has completed her Whitefield College Course, stayed for a further ten days after the rest of the team left. She visited the nursery school at Nyaporo and took part in the Sunday school there. The last part of her stay was back in Kitale where she assisted with cataloguing the books that had just arrived from Northern Ireland and did other routine tasks.

The Pattersons are happy to report that two new congregations are in the process of being welcomed into Glory Bible Church: one in Kitalale outside Kitale and the other in Ortum. Joseph Methu has been pastoring the work in Kitalale for about seven years. Victor Kiptanui has just graduated from Faith College of the Bible in Eldoret and is pastoring the work in Ortum. Please pray for them.

Five young people were baptized in the swimming pool at the Golf Hotel on August 26 and received into membership on October 1 in Kakamega Church. On that day the Lord's Table was held for the first time in Kakamega Church. Also, Pastor Patrice's son Nathan was dedicated August 27. Another dedication service was held in Nyaporo where 21 children were dedicated! This was the first-ever dedication service there so babies and children of all ages with their parents filled up the front of the church. The Pattersons say it was a remarkable sight.

Before the Pattersons leave again for Northern Ireland, they will have the opportunity to distribute much literature at the Kitale Agricultural Show October 18–21. The children's tracts were printed in time for distribution at the August VBSs and will also be used at the show. Teams from the churches on the Kitale side—Bikeke, Shimo la Tewa, and Tantana, plus the two new congregations—will assist with this outreach work.

Tracey has been getting tests and is awaiting results to see whether she can yet return to India to receive the bone marrow transplant.

Pray for the pastors and leaders in Kenya, the Sunday school teachers, and the bookshop staff; for the radio broadcasts and the book table outreaches; for workers to be raised up in Kenya and for missionaries to be thrust forth into this work. The Pattersons say, "There is much still to be accomplished in this land. Pray for us as we travel home again, planning to return in the spring (DV) for our final three-month term in Kenya. Remember also our family in prayer."

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy Gillespie sends greetings from Nepal. They look forward to the youth conference to be held November 6–8. The Revs. John Armstrong and Jonathan Creane will come from Northern Ireland to speak. God willing, a number of men will also be ordained into the ministry, another milestone in the work of God in the Free Presbyterian Church of Nepal. Pray for safety for all who travel to the conference. Pray also that the preaching of the Word will be with power from God and that His Spirit will move, convicting and encouraging the people gathered. They long to see the numbers return to pre-COVID levels so that the denomination can have that time of fellowship together.

Continue to pray for Gillian as she seeks to learn and speak the language. Pray that God will quicken her mind to understand what is being said in a conversation. She says she is often slow at remembering the vocabulary. She understands what is being said a bit too late to join in the conversations around her. Pray that God will help her become fluent.

Pray also for the future ladies' conferences and teacher-training classes. Pray that as Joy travels about that God will make them hearers and doers of His Word.

Please pray for their sister churches of Nepalese believers in India who are suffering persecution. Christians there are being watched by Indian police who seek to accuse them of proselytizing by force. These are serious accusations and could cause the churches to be closed and the pastors deported or imprisoned. Pray that nothing will be discovered and that the church will be able to continue its witness among the Nepalese community.

Joy is thankful for your continued prayerful support for the work in Asia. Pray as the World Hindu organization is working very hard to close the churches in India and Nepal. Pray that God will give the Christians strength to stand for the Lord in the day of opposition.

◆ South Korea

Seoul—Seongkyu & Sooyoun Lee

Seongkyu Lee reports that the church in Korea had its retreat at the beginning of October. They enjoyed better weather than they would have if they had had the usual retreat in the summer when there were heavy rains and heat. They held five worship services together studying the book of Philippians and broke into smaller groups for fellowship and prayer. This year's retreat theme was joy and peace in Christ. Seongkyu's hope is that the church could enjoy the same joy Paul experienced in Christ.

The church enjoyed a visit from elder Steve Kim from Boston, who joined them on the retreat. It was Mr. Kim's first visit to Korea since his wife passed away. They were grateful to have good fellowship with him. They look forward to a visit from Dr. Larry Saunders in November.

Pastor Lee has resumed the ministry to college students, sharing the gospel with young people who are now in their second semester. Please pray that the college students in the church can experience the gospel more abundantly.

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—Philip & Cherith Gardiner

Philip Gardiner requests prayer for the salvation of unconverted persons who have visited meetings recently, for effective outreach in the local community, and that the Lord would send new families to the church, especially from the local area.

Please pray also for wisdom regarding the future of the radio ministry in the Philippines.

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Brethren, pray for us.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:25