

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



June 2024

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—Richard & Renay Craig

The FPC in Little London, Jamaica, is excited about and looking forward to the vacation Bible school that is scheduled for August 10–16 when the FPC mission team led by Rev. Derrick Bowman visits Jamaica. They have been advertising the VBS and getting all the arrangements in place. They expect approximately fifty children and young people. Rev. Richard Craig says, “Please pray that the good Lord will touch the hearts of these young ones and that He will have all the preeminence.”

◆ Dominican Republic

Santo Domingo—Ramón & Wendy Sosa

Rev. Ramón Sosa thanks the Lord for the recent visits he was able to make to Mexico and Greenville. In Mexico he visited the church in Córdoba, Veracruz, and the mission church in Tehuacán, Puebla. He also had the honor of participating in the ordination ceremony of the first ruling elders of the church in Mexico City. Following that, he attended the Week of Prayer in Greenville.

He thanks the Lord that during his absence, his congregation in Santo Domingo was able to meet in person and to listen to a recorded message for the preaching of the Word on Sunday. The church is thankful that they were able to purchase and install air conditioning for the church sanctuary. It has given them great relief to be able to worship without discomfort in the increasing heat.

The church services continue to be well attended and some people have shown interest in visiting. Ramón continues with discipleship classes on Mondays, and they will soon have new candidates for baptism and church membership.

The church has transitioned to its new interim session composed of Rev. Jason

Boyle, Rev. Jorge Eduardo Peña, and ruling elder Óscar Vargas. The church thanks Rev. Derrick Bowman and Rev. Armen Thomassian for their service as the first interim session of the Word of Life Free Presbyterian Church.

Please pray 1) for all the details to be worked out for Rubén and Cinthya Ramirez as they temporarily move to the Dominican Republic in August for Rubén’s internship; 2) for the Lord’s blessing on the preaching of the Word, for wisdom in pastoral work, evangelism, and using social media; 3) for the spiritual, emotional, and physical health of the Sosa family and the people in the church (pray especially for Wendy Sosa right now as she has been having trouble with kidney stones); 4) for the Lord to provide faithful men in the church who are able to teach others; 5) for awakening and revival.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle

The Boyles are encouraged and spurred on by Galatians 6:9: “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” The process of training and preparing men to serve requires much busyness before it turns into delegation. The Boyles are still in the midst of the busyness, but they say they are thankful that the Lord has put their hands to this work and they wouldn’t have it any other way.

In May three men in the Mexico City church were ordained to eldership: Oscar Vargas, Leonardo Guitierrez, and Genaro Romero. The church welcomed a delegation of five men from the presbytery for this occasion: Reverends Larry Saunders, Eduardo (Lalo) Peña, Ramón Sosa, Derrick Bowman, and John Wagner. During their visit, Larry and Ramón were able to make the trip to Córdoba, Veracruz, (where Lalo pastors) and to Tehuacán, Puebla, (where Jair pastors) to preach. The newly ordained elders and Jason will be conducting a series of membership interviews next week. They praise God for more people who wish to join the church.

In recent months they have seen a number of signs that God is working in hearts. Sirani and her boyfriend, Alonso, are seeking the Lord and desire to walk correctly before Him. Victor, the husband of a member in the church, for whose salvation they have prayed for many years, recently met with Jason to tell him that he is being convicted of sin for the first time in his life. Elena, a recent single mother, is now walking in God’s steps and seeking to raise her daughter for the Lord. Isaac Cruz, a famous boxer on ESPN, is showing signs that God is working in his heart. He and his girlfriend are very timid, despite having attended the church faithfully for a couple years. Please pray that they will integrate into the church more. Please pray that each one of these people will continue to seek the Lord and be baptized; some have already asked to be baptized.

Jair Aguilar (pastor in Tehuacán) and Wenceslao (pastor in Jalpan de Serra) will be petitioning the presbytery to come under care at the fall Week of Prayer. Wenceslao was providentially able to spend two weeks in Mexico City recently so that his daughter and his sister could have medical appointments. It proved to be a time of encouraging fellowship. The Boyles were able to pass on gifts of clothing and money from the Winston-Salem FPC, which proved to be a very timely help to them.

The church has begun to send the seminary students and elders on a regular basis to visit the sister churches to preach and encourage the congregations and pastors. It is proving to be helpful on a personal level and congregational level. Now that Rubén has graduated from seminary, the presbytery determined that he and his wife, Cinthya, should go to the Dominican Republic to serve in Ramón Sosa’s church for approximately one year, for Rubén’s internship.

Please pray much for each congregation and the seminary students, as they continue to work on forming a Latin American Presbytery. This involves bringing each church to the point of constitution and its pastor

to ordination in the FPCNA. There are currently three constituted churches, one mission church, two men who will be petitioning to come under care of the presbytery, and two churches that hope to become mission churches in the future.

The Boyles' work in the Mexico City church continues with a monthly Bible study for newly married women and young moms, a bi-monthly women's breakfast, and four other studies currently that Jason is doing with different groups of people. Plans are developing to have a bi-monthly men's breakfast as well.

In May they began to add on a Sunday school room, to partially enclose the kitchen, and to add a men's bathroom. The renovations should be completely finished soon. Other touch ups already done include a new fridge, making a new piano cover, a new hanging verse behind the pulpit, and a burning bush pulpit fall. Providentially, one of the members is starting a business with an embroidery machine and was able to make the pulpit fall, which turned out beautifully. More are also being made for the other Latin American constituted works. The church's current urgent need is for air conditioning units for the sanctuary and Sunday school rooms. They look to the Lord who knows the need.

They are adapting their current space for the church's needs, but know that to best serve the growing church and denomination a permanent building and property are needed. They wait on the Lord to open the way.

Upcoming events that need to be covered much in prayer: 1) VBS July 22–26; 2) a mission trip at the beginning of August to their most needy sister church in La Escalera where Pepe pastors; and 3) the upcoming Latin American Family Week of Prayer in Jalpan de Serra at the beginning of July (the number of people present will be expanding since they will be welcoming the new elders and their families into this special time of fellowship).

Córdoba—Lalo & Liz Peña

Lalo Peña thanks God for the opportunity to attend the Week of Prayer in Greenville in May. He says it was a time of enormous edification, fellowship, and encouragement from the Word preached, the times of prayer, and the matters discussed during the business sessions. On the Lord's Day prior to the presbytery week, he was present at the ordination of ruling elders at "Iglesia Cristiana El Redentor" in Mexico City together with the Reverends Larry Saunders, John Wagner, Derrick Bowman, and Ramón Sosa. It was a precious time of blessing and testimony of

God's faithfulness to his church. Please pray for the works in Mexico.

Please pray for the second stage of remodeling their meeting place into a chapel, and please continue to pray for the family who was previously involved in the Judaizing movement. Finally, please continue praying God will stir up new brothers in faith who will join with them this year.

EUROPE

◆ **Spain**

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

The Hannas are most grateful for the prayers of God's people for them and the different congregations in the province of Madrid and Toledo. There is much to encourage all to continue to pray.

In Alcorcón the attendance at the Sabbath Day services has been gradually increasing. They have been receiving more visitors, some showing interest in the work. Pray that the Lord will touch hearts to the end many will become a part of the congregation. One of their own young men (Luis) has come to faith in Christ and is rejoicing in the Lord. He desires to join the discipleship class in order to become a communicant member. Pray the Lord will repeat this gracious work in the hearts of other young people.

In spite of the fact the Toledo work is presently without a full-time minister, the work continues. On the Lord's Days a variety of preachers are filling the pulpit, and the Lord has been using the ministry of His Word to encourage His people. Jonathan Hanna, who is an elder, has been carrying on the Friday evening Bible study and prayer time. They are presently studying the epistle of Galatians. Please pray on for the Lord's guidance as they look to the Lord for God's man to carry on the ministry in Toledo.

The church in Aranjuez is also enjoying the Lord's blessing. For some time Raphael, the minister, has been doing discipleship classes with some believers who wish to become members of the church. Five have been examined by the provisional session and will shortly be received into membership.

Pray the Lord will continue to pour out His blessing on the works in Spain and that by His grace sinners will be saved and believers added to the different churches.

◆ **Czech Republic**

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

In the last month or so, the Solces have been fully engaged in helping a family in the clutches of alcoholism and sin. There are three boys, as well as extended family. Milos says only the Lord can deliver and only the Lord knows what is ahead. The boys and parents are often in the Solces' home and have been coming to Sabbath school and the church services. The Solces need much wisdom and the Lord's strength in this complex situation.

The Lord is wonderfully working in the life of their son's colleague from work. Please pray continually for her in these early days of seeking the Lord. Pray also for the outreach children's summer day camp at the beginning of July. The Lord willing, there should be a number of new children this year from their community. Milos says, "May the Lord bring them up out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set their feet upon the Rock Christ Jesus, and establish their goings" (Psalm 40).

AFRICA

◆ **Liberia**

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne Greer says it's hard to believe that the school year ends in three weeks. She is very thankful for the Lord's hand upon them for good in this pilot project, especially in this first experimental year. The two current families are very keen to continue their enrollment, and others have expressed interest in applying to the school, so she looks forward to seeing what God will do next year.

Vacation time (which is rainy season in Liberia) always brings special children's activities in the church, so please pray that Joanne will know the Lord's will as she prepares, especially for vacation Bible school. They hope to hold it as usual in late July or early August.

◆ **Uganda**

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen says that she is grateful to God for His continued help and blessing in the work at Emmanuel. The staff and students are working hard in this second school term and looking to the Lord for grace and wisdom.

The high school's application for its own examination center has just been approved, so they are working on the online registration of this year's candidates who will be the first

to sit under the new lower secondary curriculum. The curriculum requires fifty pieces of coursework per student and an onerous amount of paperwork for the staff, but the Lord is undertaking for them.

Please continue to remember both the academic and spiritual needs of the school. They were encouraged when one student professed faith in Christ recently and pray that many others would also be brought into the kingdom of God.

Noreen also asks us to remember two members of staff, Madam Molly and Madam Harriet, as well as Master Ronald's wife, Jascent, who are all expecting babies later this term.

Noreen says it was a joy to have Rev. David McMillan and Mr. Jonathan McAuley visit in May. They spent some good time on the building site inspecting the construction work and also had opportunities to minister to the children when the children reported back for the new term.

Phase two of the building program includes the construction of two residential houses, a parking area, and a water tower. It is moving along as per the schedule despite heavy rain in the earlier weeks and exhausting heat in more recent days. Noreen asks us to pray that the finance would come in and the work would continue to progress in preparation for the arrival of an electrical and plumbing work team from Northern Ireland in July and the McAuley family later in the year.

Noreen also asks us to keep on praying for the many boys and girls who attend the Sunday schools at Emmanuel, Kyambala II, and Bukulula. She prays that they would come to know the Saviour and then carry the light of the gospel back to their respective homes. She thanks us for our faithfulness in prayer and wishes us God's blessing also.

◆ Kenya

Kitali—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

The Pattersons' farewell services in Kenya were held in Nyaporo on Saturday, April 6, and in Kitale on Sunday, April 7. They were joined by Rev. John Greer and Rev. Garth Wilson from Northern Ireland, who were the guest preachers. They also read letters from the Ulster Presbytery and Mission Board to the congregations. The Word of God was gladly received by all. On those two occasions the Pattersons received many and varied gifts from their Kenyan brothers and sisters in Christ.

Malcolm and Alison left Kenya on Thursday, April 12, arriving home in time to celebrate Alison's mother's ninetieth birthday.

Since they have been home, Malcolm has continued to mentor Glenn Hamilton in the handover of the administrative responsibilities for the Free Presbyterian Mission Society Africa and has continued to conduct the online pastors' prayer meeting on Monday mornings.

Their welcome home and retirement service is planned for Tuesday, June 11, in Coleraine FPC. Rev. Colin Mercer will be the guest preacher on that occasion.

Pray for those who are preparing to go to Kenya. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Hamilton and family are concluding their deputation meetings and processing the necessary paperwork to allow them to travel to Kenya. Miss Elisabeth Edwards continues with her deputation meetings and plans to leave for Kenya early next year.

Pray for the outreach team at the agricultural show in Kakamega which runs from Wednesday, June 12, to Saturday, June 18.

Finally, pray for the Pattersons as they enter a new phase of life and continue to serve the Lord in whatever way He leads. The hymn says, "O Jesus I have promised to serve Thee to the end." Malcolm and Alison say, "May the Lord enable us to do just that." They would also like to take this opportunity to thank all who have faithfully remembered them in prayer and supported them over the years they have been in Kenya.

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—Philip & Cherith Gardiner

Rev. Philip Gardiner requests prayer for the outreach of the Perth church at a sports stadium over the Australian winter. Pray also for the Bible study held in a public housing unit, especially that new people will come in under the gospel. Finally, please pray for new families and young people to become part of the church.

Brethren, pray for us.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

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