

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



February 2013

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle

The Boyles have seen some specific answers to prayer recently. This month they've seen a brand new sister in Christ overcome a difficult struggle and make healthy Christian choices. They rejoice over every little triumph and evidence of growth. They've also seen some new visitors and returning visitors and have seen a good attendance lately (8–12) at the mid-week prayer service. A good many, however, have not been able to come because of traffic and work conflicts.

Please pray for three new classes in the Mexico City work. The first is a baptism class that meets every Sunday after the service. The second class is a married couples' class scheduled for every other Friday. The third is a class for young men ages eleven through twenty. This class is held on Thursdays at the Christian school where Jason teaches a monthly devotional. Most of the young men in the church go to this school, so it was arranged to have it during their school day. The other school boys who don't go to the church also participate in the class. Jason is using J. C. Ryle's *Thoughts for Young Men* with them. Pray that the Lord will use all three classes to promote much spiritual growth and encouragement in the people. Jason and Danielle also have an outreach endeavor they plan to start sometime this summer.

Pray for wisdom and help for the Boyles as they seek to counsel a couple every week regarding their marriage and family problems.

Please pray that returning visitors would be saved, especially Armando and Felipe. Felipe visited once last spring and has come again. He struggles with alcoholism and is searching. Pray that God would save his soul and free him bondage.

Pray for wisdom and patience for the Boyles as they seek to instruct the people in

how to participate in a worship service without distracting others. Right now there is a lot of distraction with people moving around, going to the restroom, talking, etc., especially during the preaching. Jason says, "This is partly a cultural thing, and partly because this is a new church and a lot of the people are new Christians and need to develop the habit of sitting still during the preaching of God's Word. It's something that is automatically understood by people at home, but here they've never seen a congregation silent before."

Please continue to pray for the women's Bible studies, for the monthly devotional at the Christian school, and for the salvation of Rafael, Gerardo, Lety, Arturo, Yadira, Chava, Ashanti, David, Santiago, Rodolfo, and Mari. Pray for Sebastian, Alejandra, and Uri, children from non-Christian homes who come to the Sunday school. Pray that they will come regularly even though they don't have parents who are encouraging them to do so.

The Boyles foresee a busy season ahead of them and ask prayer for their physical health, their marriage, and their spiritual health. Jason says, "Thank you so much for your prayers, and we want to reiterate how needed they are. So much has been happening here and we want to keep you informed because ... there are so many blessings, but so many attacks as well. And we believe that praying specifically is a good thing, because we see specific answers. Thank you for your faithfulness in this area."

EUROPE

◆ Spain

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

The Hannas say they are grateful to the Lord for His innumerable blessings and mercies, and also for each believer who continues to pray for them. They are looking to the Lord for His guidance in this New Year. The Lord has given them Habakkuk 3:16–19 as their motto text for this year. John believes it is

very appropriate, not only because of the financial difficulties Spain and the world are facing, but also for the opportunity to show to the unsaved the reality and vitality of our faith in Christ.

The work in the new building is almost completed. The second phase was finished at the end of January. It is a great blessing to the Sabbath school work as well as for the meals between the services on the Sabbath Day. It only remains to set a date for the official opening, which they hope to make known later. This year the church held its annual dinner in the new building. After a splendid meal all the folks met in the church building for the annual reports. It was a time of much rejoicing as they listened to the different reports, learning of the Lord's blessings in all the various ministries of the church.

Mr. Hanna expresses his growing concern about the Euro Vegas Project. It has just been confirmed that the project will continue and the venue will be the city of Alcorcón. Please pray earnestly with the Spanish believers that the Lord will yet confound this evil project.

At the beginning of the year Spain's president confirmed even greater financial difficulties for the economy. Unemployment steadily increases and has reached an all-time high of 25%. Nevertheless, the Lord has been good to the Alcorcón congregation, enabling them to continue to meet their ever-increasing financial commitments. One of the two unemployed members mentioned in the last prayer bulletin has found employment. Praise the Lord for this answer to prayer! Please continue to pray that the Lord will give much wisdom concerning both the spiritual and the physical needs of the church.

John asks prayer for the work among the children and youth of the congregation. He also requests continued prayer for the parents, that they will know much of God's grace in the daily instruction in their homes, to the end their children will come to personal faith in Christ. Please also pray for the unsaved attending the services. Continue to pray for

Carlos. He is showing more and more interest and is very attentive to the Word preached. Also continue to pray for Antonia, Angel's mother, and that others will be brought into the services and be saved by God's grace.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Wesley & Carol Graham
Rev. Wesley Graham says it is gratifying to look back over the previous year and see the progress of the gospel witness in Nepal. At least new ten churches were formed, some of them as a direct result of the *Let the Bible Speak* radio broadcasts. These radio programs generated over 2500 enquiries with some 1500 follow-up visits being made by five full-time evangelists. Truly the Lord has done great things in this area of His work!

A new session of the Bible college has just begun with twelve men. All the teaching is being carried on this occasion by the local men. The Grahams will be returning to Nepal in March, and Mr. Graham hopes to give a set of lectures on the distinctives of the Free Presbyterian Church.

Please continue to pray for the conversion of the father of the young girl, Sarita, who was saved about a year ago. Her father still holds out in his resistance to the gospel, but the Lord answers prayer.

Recently, the Nepal Mission made application to the Presbytery of Ulster to become part of the Free Presbyterian Church family. After much prayerful consideration the Mission Board recommended to the presbytery that this application be accepted. The presbytery has agreed that an autonomous Free Presbyterian church be set up in Nepal. In light of that decision the Rev. John Greer, the moderator, and the Rev. Ian Harris, the chairman of the Mission Board, will be visiting Nepal to speak with the leaders about this matter and try to establish how this can be implemented. Please pray that great wisdom will be given to these men as the investigation takes place. Mr. Graham says, "This is an encouraging development and we look forward to working closely with the churches in Nepal as they seek to make progress in the future." He continues, "We would like to thank all who continue to uphold the work at the throne of grace in prayer. We are sure this is the secret to God's blessing in Nepal."

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

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCano

All of Mr. DiCano's time is being spent on the construction project at Dwazone right now. When he arrived back from the States, there were no windows, shower, or toilet in his house. It took lots of effort to get the workers back on the ground to get those priorities done. Sigma Group (the construction company) finally began installing the windows on February 8th after four months of delay. The generator house is finished, and the first generator is installed with the underground cable run to the substation and then from there to the first house. Mr. DiCano got the air conditioner installed in the master bedroom, and it has enabled him to sleep much better during the hot, dry season that they are in right now. They also installed two massive battery packs with an inverter to run the refrigerator during the day. The batteries charge at night by the generator.

The first contractor hired to build the access road disappeared and never came back to finish it. Mr. DiCano says they are currently building the entire 800-foot road by hand with three local men and six men from the church. They have finished about 600 feet and are attempting to build the driveway to the houses. It is extremely important that they finish the road and driveway before the rainy season begins in two months. If they don't make it, they will have no access to the property for the next seven months because the ground will turn to mud without the proper compacted gravel.

Only about one sixth of the security wall is built so far. Sigma Group is also doing this project. Mr. DiCano says they have decided to enclose a significant portion of the marsh land inside the wall. They may place solar panels in that area sometime in the future. Construction on the wall had to be temporarily halted because of a mistake made by the surveyor.

The last three weeks have been extremely trying for Mr. DiCano. He has been unable to leave the grounds because of the necessity of supervising the project. On one occasion when he had to leave to get some more funds from the bank, he arrived back in two hours to find that the carpenters had smashed eight bathroom tiles while placing the ceiling trim. They took it upon themselves to smear white cement over the places from which they had removed the broken pieces! In spite of delay

after delay and the "third-world laxity" of the workers (workers arrive at noon and want to leave at 4; installers arrive without the proper tools and materials and it takes them two hours to get them and return to work, etc.), Mr. DiCano says, "The difficult part of the job is just about finished. The main issue is to hurry and get this first house sorted so we can move on with the second house [for Joanne Greer], and also to get the road done."

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne Greer is thankful for your prayers for the Children's Day program on December 16. God gave help to the Sunday school children (and their teachers), and they were encouraged to see a few parents attending for the first time.

Joanne reports that they have been able to get a month's extension on the lease for her apartment, which is a great relief because she was supposed to be moving out on February 15th and didn't have any where to go! She has been asked to return to Northern Ireland for a couple of weeks to give a report at the Easter Convention, so she will move out of the apartment just before she leaves and then, Lord willing, move to Dwazone when she returns.

The reading club has really grown recently, with a lot of new kids coming. On a recent Tuesday Joanne read with seventeen children and young people between 3 and 5 in the afternoon. Joanne says it's great to see the interest and kids bringing their friends along, including some who don't attend the Sunday school. But the increased number of children means that she has to really rush in order to let each one have a few minutes reading with her individually. She says she would love to extend the club time to three hours, but there just isn't time in her schedule at the minute. Pray that the interest will continue and that she will find a way to accommodate all the kids who want to read. Some of the children's reading skills are definitely improving, and that's a great encouragement.

◆ Kenya

Kapenguria—Margaret Russell

Margaret is very thankful to be back in Kenya after her recent furlough. She values much prayer for health, safety, and wisdom, as she has commenced another term on the field. She also values prayer for those of her family still outside of Christ, especially her sister Sadie.

The annual Sunday school program is fast approaching, with examinations in March and prize giving in April. Margaret asks us to pray

much for the work among the boy and girls and particularly for the teachers who teach them each week. Pray that this year's special programs will be used of God not only as a blessing to the children but also to reach many of their parents and bring them under the preaching of the gospel.

Margaret also asks us to pray for wisdom and direction in the work of the BCFC Bible College. There have been no classes now for over two years. Pray that God will show the BCFC church leaders the way forward in this vital part of the church ministry.

At this time in Kenya all programs both in school and church are dominated by the upcoming national elections on March 4. Margaret cannot overemphasize the need for prayer that God will keep His hand upon the nation at this time. She says things seem to be getting more complicated by the day. Among other issues that have a bearing on the results of the elections, it is of great concern that one very popular presidential hopeful is a suspect in the international criminal court! Embassy representatives recently warned Kenya of electing someone who still has a case to answer in that court. Margaret says, "Above all, do pray for peace and stability."

Kapenguria—Kathy Walker

Kathy reports that the new computer program for the bookshop is now in its first month of operation and seems to be doing very well. They are still in the learning process and a few more of the features are yet to be utilized, but when fully functional it should save quite a lot of time and work. Kathy's patience was tried when she accidentally hit a "clear" button and then had to re-enter twelve pages of inventory items, but the second time went much more smoothly. Sales are high during these opening months of the year with back-to-school items as well as Bibles, books, and hymnbooks. Continue to pray for this vital ministry. Kathy hopes to do a bit of shopping for the bookshop while in North America. Please pray for the mother of Jane, a bookshop employee. The mother had a severe break in her leg in December, and it is not healing properly. She was recently sent to another hospital for surgery.

Pray for Kathy's furlough and deputation meetings with the churches in America during March to May, and also for a full recovery physically. She is looking forward to spending time with family and friends.

A number of the choirs sang at a special combined church service on February 10. Pray for Nixon, Francis, Ebby, Emily, and Elizabeth as they continue the choir rehearsals while Kathy is gone.

Kitale—Noreen McAfee

Noreen says that the new school year is well underway at the Christian Academy with students already preparing for their first school-based assessments. Only Form One students are yet to report. They have just received their primary exam results and are waiting to report following the national process which selects students for secondary schools. Noreen asks us to pray for them and for all the other new pupils in the school this year. She says it is always an encouragement to see new families joining and new children coming under the sound of God's Word.

Noreen requests prayer for the staff as well and especially for spiritual growth in their lives. Mr. Kigen, a secondary school teacher, has recently announced plans to marry this year. In January Mrs. Omwoyo, who teaches in the primary department, gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Vivian Kemunto, and Alice Chenangat, one of the BCFC young people, has recently been employed as the school librarian.

Meanwhile, parents are searching for money to clear fees, and the new DVD to promote prayerful and financial support of the Christian Academy has been released in Ulster.

The school will close at the end of February for an unusually long half-term break scheduled to facilitate the general elections to be held on March 4. All are praying for a free and fair election, for godly leaders, and for peace and stability to be maintained.

Noreen says she is also delighted to have company again on the mission compound in Milimani, Kitale, following the safe arrival of Rev. & Mrs. Malcolm Patterson.

Brethren, pray for us.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

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