

# Missionary Prayer Bulletin



February 2014

## NORTH AMERICA

### ◆ Jamaica

#### Little London—

Dr. Larry Saunders and Toronto elder James Fraser will be making a trip to Jamaica on February 20. Pray for safety on their journey, power in the ministry of the Word, and wisdom in conducting the business of the different aspects of the work. They look forward to renewing fellowship with the brethren in Jamaica.

### ◆ Mexico

#### Mexico City—*Jason & Danielle Boyle*

The Boyles thank those who have been praying for Claudia, whose baby is due March 8. Please continue to pray for safety for her and the baby during the remaining weeks of her high-risk pregnancy.

Please pray for the youth sports day coming up on March 8. The Boyles have been organizing these events for a couple of years for young people from up to five different churches. Please pray that many would be able to attend and that many would be saved.

Pray for Marcus and Jennifer, fellow missionaries who are hoping to join the Free Presbyterian Church. They have a church in Veracruz, Mexico, four hours away from the Boyles. They also work among two small, non-Spanish-speaking tribes in the mountains. Jason and Danielle plan to visit them in March.

Please pray for two individuals, “S” and “N,” who are having major struggles in complex situations. The Boyles say they have no idea how to help them other than to pray. Both persons are in dangerous positions and desperately need God to work in their hearts.

Please also pray 1.) that God would mature the believers in the church and

that the work would grow in numbers; 2.) that God would raise up men for positions of leadership; 3.) for Danielle as she trains women to serve in the church (VBS, Sunday school, nursery); and 4.) for Jason and Danielle’s physical, emotional, and spiritual health and other needs.

## EUROPE

### ◆ Ireland

#### *Colin & Olive Maxwell*

County Monaghan is the scene of a lot of Colin’s labors at the moment. There will, however, be some outreach done soon in another border county in the Irish Republic (Donegal) in connection with a three-week gospel mission in Ballymagroarty, where Rev. Ryan McKee will be the preacher. Last year a mission in the same hall produced several lasting conversions. Colin is still active with the wider “Consider Christ” campaign, having opportunity to testify and preach the Word.

On the home front, Colin and Olive’s daughter, Ruth, graduated from college with a degree in communications and advertising. She is hoping to return for a year to do a Master’s degree. Andrew (11) is quickly growing up into a fine young man, still very keen in the things of God. Olive’s mother, who was diagnosed with a brain tumor, continues to deteriorate, although still without pain or distress. This has put a burden on the family as she is being cared for at home with 24/7 care. Your prayers and support are appreciated as always.

### ◆ Spain

#### *Cortijos Nuevos—Joy Gillespie*

As Joy reported last time, the Lord has opened the door to hold teaching classes with the local school teachers. She has twenty students in the class and the Lord

has graciously given her favor among them. Pray that these contacts will show an interest in the scriptures and that lasting friendships will be made.

Joy continues to distribute literature in the neighborhood. Pray that God’s Word will find a place in hearts. Pray for more interest to be shown by the villagers concerning the things of God.

Continue to remember the children’s work and the weekly Bible studies, that new children will come in and that the messages will be an encouragement to the hearers.

#### *Beas de Segura—Lyle & Heather Boyd*

Lyle asks for continued prayer for the family whose mother placed the three children into a children’s home. She has now left to live in Valencia on the east coast of Spain. Lyle and Heather are in the very difficult process of trying to get Heidi, the youngest child (eleven), out now and again. Please pray that the Boyds would continue to have contact with the children, and if that is not possible, that the children would remember what they learned in the short time they were in the church and that the Lord would use it for their salvation.

Believers in this Catholic rural area are classed as heretics and the local people are suspicious of them. It was therefore a surprise when the congregation in Cortijos Nuevos received a Christmas letter from the new local priest. Lyle answered the letter as graciously as possible, pointing out biblically the false doctrine that it included. He recently had the opportunity to talk with the priest for almost three hours, discussing many different topics. Pray that the Lord would open this young priest’s heart and that he would see the error of Rome and come to Christ.

Please continue to pray for the radio program that goes out around noon each week day. Lyle continues to hear of

people enjoying the message, but as yet he has never seen any fruit of souls coming into the church to hear more.

Also pray for the growing number of Muslims in the area. Many stop at the book table, some show hostility, and others try to convert Lyle to Islam! Pray for Latifa, a Muslim woman who is the caregiver for one of the church deacons who has been an invalid for many years. Latifa has heard the gospel and attends the Bible study each Wednesday in the deacon's house but shows little interest.

Continue to pray that the unconverted in the services would be saved. Please note Lyle's new email address: gal-2.16@hotmail.com.

#### **Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna**

The Lord laid a theme on John's heart which they have taken as their motto for the church in Alcorcón this year: "Thoughts that Lead to Spiritual Stability," based on the last phrases of Philippians 3:1 and 8. John has been dealing with this theme in the Sabbath mornings. Pray that it will lead to greater stability in the members, especially in their family lives.

The church family had a very blessed annual meeting in January. After eating together they heard the different reports. In spite of the present economic crisis in Spain, the financial report was most encouraging. Pray that the Lord will make them more prosperous in every aspect of the work in this New Year. Having reached 65 years of age, John submitted himself to be re-elected as pastor of the church. He was re-elected unanimously and is thankful to the Lord for this opportunity to continue his ministry in Spain.

Please pray for a group of men who are preparing to serve as lay preachers. Pray that the Lord will be pleased to raise up more men called of God for the ministry of the gospel in Spain. Please pray also for the unsaved attending the services: Antonia, Patricia, Mari Carmen, Carlos, Alberto, and Jaime. The Lord is clearly working in Jaime's life, which is causing friction with his wife, who is interested only in the things of this world.

Please pray also for Vicky, Joel Hanna's wife, who is due to give birth in March to a brother for Marcos. After a rough start, Vicky has had a good pregnancy. Jonathan and Miriam Hanna's baby Alex is doing very well. Pray for all the little ones in the congregation that the Lord will save them early in life and

make them men and women of God in the future of the work.

Continued prayer is also appreciated for the work in the North where Jordi Ruiz labors for the Lord. Things are not yet clear concerning the action of the authorities in Bilbao. Pray that their plan to prevent new works within the city limits will be overthrown.

#### ◆ **Czech Republic**

##### **Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc**

Milos reports that they had a number of visitors to the church during the second half of December. It was encouraging to see one family that they had not seen for a long time. The Kosaks were among the first people the Solces got to know when they went to the Czech Republic. Although the Kosaks did attend some of the services in the beginning, they stopped coming. In recent weeks they showed a renewed interest. Milos says, "May this truly be an interest in seeking the Lord for the salvation of their own souls. There is still much confusion in their lives and a great need for the Lord to help their unbelief."

One of Milos's students from the university, a young man named Jan Stepanek, and his mother, Mrs. Renata Stepanek, have also visited. Milos says, "We were able to have some very good spiritual discussion with them on more than one occasion.... Though they would in many ways consider themselves believers, it is very plain that they are strangers to grace. Please pray that their eyes may be opened to see their great need."

At the end of December they enjoyed a visit from Daniel and Alayna Overly, who are originally from Greenville, but now temporarily in Vienna, where Daniel is continuing his music studies. Daniel and Alayna gave their testimonies to some of the people, including Jan Stepanek. Daniel also shared a brief word on the Lord's Day morning.

In January, they welcomed back Pavlina Slesingrova from her studies in Sweden. Please continue to pray for this young woman and for her spiritual growth. She feels the burden for her unsaved family and needs help and wisdom from the Lord in how to minister to them. She is also quite a distance from the Solces, which poses additional difficulties.

The church had its week of prayer in January. They asked the Lord for contin-

ued help in their labors for Him and for the salvation of souls. Milos says it was an unusual blessing to hear a word over Skype from Dr. Larry Saunders one day and from the Rev. Ivan Foster on another.

## ASIA

#### ◆ **Nepal**

##### **Kathmandu—Wesley & Carol Graham**

Wesley Graham says at present he and Carol are carrying out deputation meetings throughout the churches in Ulster. They hope to return to Nepal in March, visiting some of the Nepali churches in Delhi en route.

The Lord continues to bless the preaching of the gospel on the radio in Nepal with regular reports of people coming to faith in Christ. Last year there were over 1800 inquiries by mail asking for literature and information about the Christian faith. He says, "It truly is encouraging to see such an interest."

When the Grahams arrive back in Nepal they will be preparing for the presbytery meeting of the newly formed Free Presbyterian Church of Nepal, which will take place in April. Please pray that much wisdom will be given as the business is conducted by the men there.

Another project just announced is the relocation of the orphanage adjacent to the present Bible college and church building. A piece of ground has been purchased and a deposit put down. The balance has to be paid within five months and they look to the Lord to provide this need. The present orphanage building has become too small and the authorities are pressing for a recreation area for the children and more spacious accommodation inside. The purchase of new ground will allow further expansion of the home and enhance the living conditions of the children.

## AFRICA

#### ◆ **Liberia**

##### **Monrovia—Joanne Greer**

Joanne has been busy preparing for the week of special classes February 13–19 at which Dr. Mark Allison will be teaching on the book of Galatians. Pray that the team will have safe and smooth travels,

that many people will be able to attend, and that God will bless His Word as it is proclaimed. Pray also that if it is the Lord's will, they will have electricity at the bookshop/church during the workshop. At the moment, there is a shortage of diesel fuel in the country, and therefore the government electricity company cannot run its generators to provide power for the city. Joanne gives some examples of the problems that has caused: on a recent day they couldn't get their mail because there was no light inside the post office; they couldn't pay their taxes because the computer systems were down in the Ministry of Finance; and closer to home, they couldn't print forms and notes at the bookshop to prepare for the classes.

Joanne hopes to continue at least some of her regular work with the children during the workshops, since consistency is so important with the little ones. They are starting a new series in the Paynesville Bible club on missionaries, focusing especially on the life of Paul, but also learning a little about other missionaries past and present. Pray that the Lord will put an interest in missionary work in the hearts of the children who are saved.

Please continue to pray for the recently bereaved families in connection with the FPMCOL. The missionaries and Dr. Allison and Paulcy Cange will be travelling to Rivercess on Saturday the 15th for the funeral service for Patience Joe (the wife of the pastor in Rivercess). Please do keep this family in prayer and also Pastor Dahn (the pastor in Paynesville) and his family following the recent death of his mother-in-law.

Pray also for a young boy with a chronic illness who has just suffered a relapse. Joanne took him to the doctor recently. He needs some major changes in his lifestyle and diet in order to help him regain strength. Please pray for great wisdom in approaching his mother and discussing these things with her. Pray that she will be convicted of the necessity of these measures.

## ◆ Kenya

### **Kapenguria—Kathy Walker**

Kathy is thankful for a safe journey back to Kenya at the end of December, just in time for Christmas in Kakamega with the other missionaries. She enjoyed her time in Northern Ireland and was blessed by the fellowship and support of the brethren

there. A number of people donated to a cookie fund for the children who come to her gate to recite verses. That has started up again and one week recently she had 87 children! Many of them repeat the verses after her (especially the very little ones), but some have memorized them. Pray that the Word of God would find a place in each heart.

The choirs are going on well. Pray for greater faithfulness and that notable progress would be made this year. They hope to produce a CD of the church choirs (with both Swahili and English hymns) that could be sold in the bookshops. Nixon will be assisting with the school choirs again this year, as well as continuing with his piano lessons. He and Ebby (another piano student) will be taking part in the special church service in February, playing for a couple of the congregational hymns.

Continue to pray for the bookshops. Kathy says it looks as if they will be able to stay in their current locations for the near future. They still desire to expand the work into new areas. Pray for the leading of the Lord in this.

Kathy reports that it was lovely to have a rain shower after so many days of heat and dust. The rain is a boost to the water tanks, especially as work and funds are needed to repair the borehole.

### **Kitale—Malcolm & Alison Patterson**

The Pattersons have settled back into the routine of work in Kenya after spending almost three weeks at home around Christmas so that their visa could be renewed. Thankfully, they reentered Kenya without any difficulty, just in time for the commencement of another term at the Bible college. The two students are now in their final year. Malcolm says, "So far there are no new students, so this is a special matter for prayer as it is essential for this work that men are raised up of God to preach. A day of prayer was held recently with this matter in mind."

The Youth Ministries Course is planned to commence next week. Pray that God will send young people and that they will benefit from the course. In Kenya, high school graduates finish their final exams in November, receive their results in March, but do not commence university or further study until September. So young people like to have something to do while waiting for results and placement and some do a short course

of study, such as the Youth Ministries Course, at this time.

Malcolm also preaches on Sundays in various churches and at the Bikeke prayer meeting on Wednesdays. Alison has the usual biweekly ladies' meeting in Kitale and has been asked to speak once a month at other churches in Kitale, Bikeke, and Moi's Bridge. She is continuing to produce Bible reading notes for the ladies. She is writing the third booklet which will be on the final chapters in the gospel of Mark on the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Pattersons are waiting for the paperwork to be completed in Nairobi for Free Presbyterian registration and then will apply for a work permit. Continue to pray for the BCFC as a denomination and especially for the ministers and pastors.

### **Kitale—Noreen McAfee**

Noreen says that the start to the year at the Christian Academy has been busy. All classes are well filled with just a few form one (ninth grade) students yet to report. She asks us to pray for the Lord to work in every young life and to give much fruit in this new academic year.

There have been some new additions to the staff. Madam Betty and Master Peter have joined the secondary department to teach English and mathematics respectively, while Jackline and William are working in the office and kitchen areas. The administrators are thankful to God for filling the vacancies and ask us to seek Him on behalf of all who serve Him in the Christian Academy.

A new bakery project is planned for this year with a view to supplying snacks to boarding students and possibly to the extended community in the future. It is a new venture aimed at boosting school income, and Noreen asks us to pray that it would be successful. There are some pressing needs, including a new school bus, and Noreen says they are looking to the Lord to provide.

The Lord was pleased to grant good results for last year's standard eight (eighth grade) students, and all gained entrance to secondary schools. Now they are awaiting the form four (twelfth grade) results and are praying for the Lord to open further opportunities for them also. A new group is already eyeing the national exams scheduled for the end of this year!

On February 22 Noreen will travel to Ulster for deputation. She asks us to

pray for travelling mercies, for help in the meetings, and for God's grace and help for those who will look after the school during her absence.

#### **Nyaporo—Gillian Gillespie**

Gillian requests prayer for health and strength for all the missionary team and for safety as they live and work in Kenya. Pray in particular for travelling mercies during the rainy season as the roads are full of pot holes and are very muddy. Pray that God would bless the labor of their hands.

In regard to the work in Nyaporo, Gillian asks for prayer that those who attend the church would spend time with the Lord each day and that they would see the importance of giving their tithes and offerings.

Pray for the salvation of all the Sunday school children, teens, youth, and adults in the church, for spiritual growth in all the believers, for men to be raised up to take on leadership roles in the church, and for a pastor to lead the flock forward. Pray for full-time employment for those who need jobs, for the defeat of witchcraft in all its many forms, and for the salvation and deliverance of those who are ensnared by alcohol (many of the husbands of the ladies who attend Nyaporo BCFC have this awful problem). Finally, please pray for more teens' teachers to be raised up throughout the BCFC.

#### **Kapenguria—Margaret Russell**

Margaret says the new year got off to a busy start with the recommencing of the academy and Bible college. A lot of work went into planning the church work for 2014; they look to the Lord to enable them to see it all carried out.

Please pray much for the Bible college. Their two students will finish their ministerial course in November. Some of the men in the church have shown an interest, but they have not yet submitted their applications. On February 9 in a special church service certificates were presented to eight of the youth who did the Youth Ministries Course last year. Margaret says, "It was good to have them with us as some had left us to study in higher colleges and one is employed. Do pray for these eight young people that God will keep His good hand upon them and use them where He has placed them at present. Another course has been advertised

to start this week and we are praying that the Lord will give others that desire to be equipped in the service of God—even if it is not in a full-time capacity."

The annual Sunday school program of examinations, prize-giving, and parents' meetings is fast approaching. Margaret asks for prayer for these special programs in March and April, that they will be a blessing to all—children, parents, and even the Sunday school teachers.

Noreen McAfee is leaving for furlough at the end of February. Margaret asks for special prayer in Noreen's absence that God will undertake and give Margaret the needed strength and wisdom as she works with the two deputy head teachers who will be left in charge.

Amy, Margaret's niece, is still making slow progress after spinal surgery. Even after six months she still needs a lot of pain relief. Margaret's brother-in law Brian has also been in a lot of pain and had repeat back surgery on February 13. In Kenya, Patrick has had a rough spell with his illness but thankfully seems to have improved. They had a sad loss in Emboghat in one of the BCFC churches where they buried a 30-year-old young man who was working in Nairobi. He developed cerebral problems and passed away very suddenly. Within a week in the same place they buried a Sunday school child who had been chronically ill from birth. Please pray for a young man, Naaman, from the same church. He is in the Kenyan army and is now on the front line in Somalia.

At this time of the year they are looking forward to the onset of the long rains which usually come in March. They pray that God will be merciful to them again this year. In Northern Kenya the drought is already gripping and famine is evident, with the government issuing relief to several areas. Margaret says, "Rain is so important, but how much more the spiritual rain! Please pray for spiritual blessing in every pulpit of the BCFC and in every special ministry from day to day as they seek to spread the truth of the gospel in Kenya."

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

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