

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



June 2014

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle
The Boyles request prayer for the church in Mexico City: "We have experienced attacks designed to break up the unity of the church. In general, the situation has served to humble people and bring more unity. Please pray that our church would stay united in brotherly love and grow in spiritual maturity. This is our biggest request."

Continue to pray for Marcus Reyes and Lalo Pena, who are pastors in Veracruz seeking to join the FPC of North America. Pray that God would bless the relationships being formed between the churches. Two elders from Marcus Reyes' church in Orizaba, Veracruz, visited the Boyles in early June. Jason and Danielle plan to visit Marcus's church for a second time in August. In October Marcus and Lalo, Lord willing, will be going to the Week of Prayer in Cloverdale, British Columbia, to be interviewed.

Pray regarding a building the church is looking into purchasing. They had an estimate done on the place, which yielded a price significantly lower than the asking price. The realty company the landlady is working with won't allow her to lower her price very much, so the church is waiting until October when her contract with the realty company expires and hopes she will lower her price then. In the meantime, the Boyles have other details to work out concerning the place. Jason says, "Please pray for God's guiding hand in the process. He brought us to this point, and He will lead us as far as He intends us to go in this situation. Having a new place of this size would fix more than a few issues we face in our current meeting place."

Please also pray for their baptism service on June 22, for vacation Bible school July 7–10, for those going to youth camp in July, for Jason and Danielle's health during the current fast pace of the ministry, and for various visitors coming to stay in the summer and fall.

EUROPE

◆ Ireland

Colin & Olive Maxwell

Colin's summer work is well under way with some open-air evangelism in Dublin and his first trip to the Roman Catholic shrine to Mary at Knock in County Mayo. He has had some "chats" with Muslims in Dublin and devout Roman Catholics at Knock. Currently there is another Roman Catholic horror story in the Irish Republic: the skeletons of hundreds of babies were found in an underground tank of a convent in County Galway. Colin says, "While this serves to weaken the hold of Rome, it does little to advance the cause of religion in general. I appreciate your prayers and support."

◆ Spain

Cortijos Nuevos—Joy Gillespie

As summer is fast approaching many of Joy's classes have come to a close. She thanks God for the opportunities with the English students and for an improvement in their language skills. Two of the girls hope to travel to Ulster this summer for a week. Pray that they will enjoy the experience and that being with a Christian family will be an influence on them for good.

Joy's classes with the school teachers have also come to a close. She really enjoyed the classes, but most importantly, she had the opportunity to share the gospel with some and others have since accepted

literature or bought literature at the book table. Pray that these new contacts will be owned of the Lord.

The children's work has also ended for the summer. Joy thanks God for the faithfulness of the boys and girls that came and for their interest and that of their parents to encourage them to learn their verses and catechism. Pray that the Lord will keep His hand of protection on the boys and girls at this time of separation.

For the past few months new ladies have been coming to the women's meeting in Cortijos Nuevos. Please continue to pray for these contacts, that Joy will have more opportunities to share the gospel with them. Joy is grateful for your prayers and support in the past. Please continue to pray for the land of Spain, that God will move in a mighty way in the hearts of the people.

Beas de Segura—Lyle & Heather Boyd

Lyle asks us to continue to pray for the work in the Sierra de Segura as many visitors come to the area during the summer months. Pray for the book tables in the market, that many opportunities would arise to witness for Christ. The church congregation usually increases a little in this season for which they praise the Lord. Lyle says it is good to renew fellowship with many who are from the area but had to leave years ago to look for work in the big cities. Please pray for men attending the Bible class, that the Lord would raise up men to help Lyle in the work.

Continue to pray for Heidi, the little girl of twelve whom the Boyds have been having in their home every three weeks since February. She will be spending a good part of the summer with them. Pray also for her unsaved family, that the Lord would do a work of grace in their hearts.

Please pray for the young priest in Cortijos Nuevos who has received a lot

of Christian literature and who has been witnessed to on a number of occasions.

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

Milos says the visit of Daniel and Alayna Overly in April was a great encouragement again. A good number of visitors came on the Lord's Day. Milos says, "Brother Daniel brought a challenging message and after the service, some of the visitors came to our home for more fellowship. One of these was a colleague of mine from University. Her name is Jana Nemeckova. Please, pray for this woman and the others as well."

At the end of May, Sarah Stewart, a young woman from Northern Ireland, visited the Solces. She is seeking the Lord's will for the future and feels a burden for mission work. She plans to begin studying at the Whitefield College of the Bible in Ulster this coming year. Pray for the Lord's leading.

During Sarah's stay in Liberec, the Solces organized an outreach, inviting some students for a baseball game. Such outreaches are a way to get to know people and break down some of the barriers and prejudices they have. After the game they had some refreshments and Milos brought a challenge from the Lord's Word on the text, "O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!" (Deuteronomy 32:29). He says that one of the problems of today is that people just do not consider—do not think—especially when it comes to their latter end. Pray that those that heard this word would stop and think, and come to the Saviour.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Wesley & Carol Graham

The second presbytery meeting of the FPC of Nepal took place on Saturday, May 24. The pastors ordained last November all met to discuss the setting up of procedures to govern the Free Presbyterian churches in Nepal. The meeting lasted from 2 p.m. until after 8 p.m. with a short break at tea-time. Rev. Wesley Graham was present and, although the discussions took place in Nepali, Paul Thapa interpreted his comments to the men and

kept him informed of the progress of the discussions at intervals. Mr. Graham says, "It was a good meeting and we look to the Lord to give the men great wisdom, as many important decisions have to be made in the coming days."

A graduation service for the ladies who recently completed the Bible college course took place on Friday, May 23. The group were all young, unmarried girls, each of whom has the ambition to spread the news of the gospel to her friends and family members. Please pray that God will lead and bless them. The Bible college is closed for the next few months as the monsoon rains will begin shortly, making travel very difficult.

The Grahams are home again in Northern Ireland. They will return to Nepal in the middle of October, but in July and August they hope to visit Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria, and Phoenix to present the needs of the work in Nepal.

Mr. Graham says, "Please pray for us and for our friends in Nepal, that as we have left them for the next few months, we would all experience the truth of Isaiah 26:4 and find strength for every day in the Lord Jehovah.

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne says they held their first Children's Day service in the Ballah Creek church on Sunday, June 15. About twenty children who have been faithfully attending the weekly Bible club since September took part. Five of them received new Bibles as prizes for Scripture memorization. Special attendance prizes were also given to the two students with the highest number of attendances *on time*. (Joanne says time-keeping is a difficulty for many people there!)

Preparations are underway for vacation Bible school in the Paynesville church, which is provisionally planned for July 14–18. They also hope to hold weeks of VBS in Ballah Creek and Rivercess this summer, if the Lord wills. Joanne says, "I'm reminded that the Lord's plans are sometimes very different from ours, since the mission compound was robbed last summer a week before we were due to travel to Rivercess for VBS, and we never made it there at all!"

Joanne and Rev. David DiCanio appreciate your prayers concerning the outbreak of Ebola in several West African countries, starting in March 2014. Liberia was on high alert during April with several confirmed cases and a few deaths. Most of these cases were in the north of the country, quite far from the mission work. For a couple of months, everything was quiet with no new cases reported in Liberia. Joanne says, "Sadly, we have just heard in the last few days that Ebola has re-emerged, this time not only in the north, but also here in Monrovia (the capital). Seven people have now died in and around Monrovia, and considering the number of potential contacts from those victims, we may be heading for quite a severe outbreak. Do keep us all in prayer regarding this, please."

◆ Kenya

Kitale—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

Malcolm continues to lecture in the BCFC Bible college in Kenya. The present students just have another term and a half until they graduate. He is studying through the book of Psalms with the mid-week prayer meeting in Bikeke and speaks each Lord's Day in various BCFC churches. Some of Malcolm's sermons have been translated into Swahili and printed for distribution. He recently preached against the use of alcohol for many people have died and many were blinded after drinking alcohol that had pure methanol in it. Since it was a topical subject the sermon was printed and distributed during outreach at Kitalale.

Alison continues to take the ladies' meetings in Kitale as well as monthly meetings for the whole classical session. She was recently asked to take a workshop on the doctrine of salvation. They had a good meeting on a recent Saturday with 22 ladies. It was a five-hour meeting with two breaks for chai and food! The ladies were given folders with the notes in them and questions. If they answer all the questions over the period of the workshop they will receive a prize.

Sadly, one of the Kitale ladies was killed in tragic circumstances a few weeks ago. She was en route to Uganda to her sister's funeral and the vehicle she was travelling in overturned at a bad corner. She was killed instantly. However, some of her relatives and neighbors came to the workshop. She left behind a good testi-

mony. Pray for this family and especially for her disabled daughter.

The Pattersons say there is a basic need for teaching in Africa. People need to learn to read the Bible for themselves. Alison has completed the third Bible study booklet. She has started to write the final booklet on the gospels and hopes to have it ready for Christmas.

The Pattersons are still waiting for FPC registration in Kenya. When it comes through they will be able to apply for their work permit. They are planning to return to Northern Ireland June 26–July 16 so that they can renew their visas on their return.

In summary, please pray for safe travel, for the FPC registration and work permit, for help with preparation for meetings, for God's blessing on all their endeavors in the gospel, for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the people in the BCFC churches so that they would grow in grace, and for greater response to the gospel during outreach and in the churches.

Kitale—Noreen McAfee

Noreen reports that she has conducted over seventy deputation meetings in Northern Ireland and Scotland over the past three and a half months. She says she is grateful to God and His people for the opportunity to present His work in Kenya and for all the fellowship, encouragement, and support she has received. She also appreciates the efforts of her colleagues in Kenya who covered her responsibilities during this time of furlough.

Noreen's "Sending Forth" service will be held in her home congregation, Hebron Free Presbyterian Church in Ballymoney, June 19. She will also be speaking at the Children's Day services there on June 22. She values prayer for all these meetings.

God willing, Noreen will return to Kenya on Monday, June 30, to resume her duties at the BCFC Christian Academy. She asks us to join her in praying for grace to say farewell, for a safe and uncomplicated journey, and for help to settle quickly back into the work.

Nyaporo—Gillian Gillespie

Noreen and Gillian's work permits have been sent down to Nairobi for renewal. Please pray that they will be granted more time to serve the Lord in Kenya.

Gillian says the little work in Nyaporo is in need of at least two more Sunday

school teachers and another teens' Bible class teacher. Pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of some in the congregation to give themselves to these special works.

A number of folk are in need of full-time employment. Pray for work opportunities to present themselves for those in need in the church. Pray for an easing of the rains in the Nyaporo area of western Kenya to allow the maize harvest to dry. Many people have had to harvest their maize early due to thieves stealing whole fields of maize and even bean crops at night.

Pray for Gillian as she travels on the muddy roads that God will keep her safe and give her wisdom. Pray for God to bless the labor of her hands in this needy area of Kenya.

Kapenguria—Margaret Russell

When Margaret wrote her report, Patrick had been admitted to hospital for the second time in the past month. His blood counts are very unstable. Please remember him in prayer.

Margaret thanks us for our prayers for the Sunday school ministry. During the month of May they set up three committees in the three main areas of the BCFC and in the next weeks the 21 committee members will be going out to assess and assist the teachers in their ministry. Please pray that God will touch the hearts of all who have this responsibility, that they would be used of God to promote the Sunday school ministry and as a result many more children will be reached with the gospel.

The academy is looking forward to the return of Noreen McAfee from furlough. Margaret thanks God for His hand upon the school during her absence. He continues to provide for and protect the students as they travel to and live at the school. The employment of a school nurse in the month of May is proving to be of great help to students and has resulted to date in fewer trips to the hospital!

Please pray for academic progress as it will soon be time national examinations which have such a great effect on the future lives of the students. Do also pray that students will come to Christ. Six hundred students hear the Word of God every day; the missionaries and teachers hold onto the promise that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

The Kenyan government still struggles with many problems: insecurity, road carnage, food shortages, unemployment, and political instability. Thankfully, there has been a slight reduction in the number of road deaths this year. They are thankful to God for the rains which eventually came and for the salvaging of a large percentage of the crops that were withering in the fields.

Margaret thanks us for our continued support at the throne of grace and asks us to continue to pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit in every area of the ministry of the gospel that they are involved in.

Kapenguria—Kathy Walker

Kathy asks prayer for the choir rally to be held at the end of June. The purpose of the rally is to begin preparations for making a CD of the church choirs singing hymns in Kiswahili. The rally is for all choir members throughout the BCFC churches. Pray for all those involved (both in singing and directing), that they will give themselves wholeheartedly to this effort. A number of forms have already been turned in for some who will be attending and recent weekly practices have been encouraging.

The bookshop workers are excited about a large shipment of books, Bibles, and CDs on its way from a book appeal throughout the churches in Northern Ireland. They thank the Lord for His continued provision.

In conjunction with the BCFC churches, the bookshop plans to participate in the fall agriculture show in Kitale with a book table of free literature as well as church information and books and Bibles for sale. Pray for the Lord's guidance and blessing upon this endeavor. Pray also that the Lord would continue to open other doors for the distribution of gospel literature. Remember Stephen, who works in the Kitale shop, and his wife, Irene. Irene's mother passed away suddenly. It was a great shock to the family. Irene's family is Roman Catholic.

Continue to pray as well for the salvation and growth of souls. Kathy recently received a letter from one of the high school girls. She comes from a saved family and quoted quite a bit of Scripture in her letter. She is struggling with some spiritual issues. Pray for the Lord's wisdom as Kathy seeks to counsel her.

The road between Kapenguria and Kitale continues to deteriorate, making it quite an effort as well as a safety issue

to travel. Motorcycles (pikipiki's) are a serious problem as they are a law unto themselves. In just one day Kathy had two close calls. Do pray for safety on the roads.

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

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