

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



October 2013

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—*Jason & Danielle Boyle*

The Boyles have been very busy in recent weeks. They ask for prayer that they will be able to get everything done that needs to be done. At the moment many different people require additional help during the week. Jason has also been struggling with his health in the last few weeks, which makes it even harder to get everything done.

A man in the church has started a Bible study in the home of a neighbor who is interested in the gospel but who works on Sundays. The Boyles are hoping that after a short-term Bible study, the family will be willing and able to change things so that they can come to church on Sundays. They are currently listening to CDs of Jason's past sermons.

Jason and two other men are looking forward to attending a leadership conference in Hermosillo the first week of December. Please pray that the Lord will provide what they need to get there. This will be a helpful and important step for the church. Also in December they look forward to having their first-ever visit from two members of the mission board. They are praying that it will be a blessing to everyone involved, especially the congregation in Mexico City as they begin to realize what it means that people are praying for them and that they have a huge number of brothers and sisters in Christ in other parts of the world.

The Lord has led the church to rent its current church building for another year. They considered renting an adjoining part that has a kitchen, a bathroom, and a cleaning closet, but the landlady wanted too much for it, so for now they will stay with their makeshift kitchen.

Please continue to pray for the regular ministry requests such as the Sunday and Wednesday services, the classes and studies, the salvation of unbelievers who attend regularly (Jason and Danielle see God working in this area) and their health, strength, and stamina for the work God has called them to.

EUROPE

◆ Ireland

Colin & Olive Maxwell

Colin says, "[I am] sitting in Dublin, before some street preaching, writing this short report, somewhat ruefully considering that the summer work is coming to an end. It has been a good year with much evangelism done in Dublin, Galway, and other places like Knock RC shrine. At the end of this month, I will concentrate on door-to-door evangelism in the border county of Monaghan in the Irish Republic. I have prepared a leaflet for this work. Thankful as ever for your prayers and interest."

◆ Spain

Cortijos Nuevos—Joy Gillespie

As the winter season of work starts again Joy thanks God for health and strength to continue to labor for Him in Spain. The children's work started in the last few weeks. Pray for the boys and girls as they hear the Word at Sunday school and the children's club, that God will convert their souls. Joy says that while she was reading Deuteronomy 31:12–13 she was again convicted of the need to reach out to the boys and girls. As Christians it's important to gather the children in so that they may hear God's Word, understand it, and learn to fear God and to observe to do all that His law teaches. She says, "May God find us faithful to this end."

On a recent Saturday Pepe, a contact of Joy's in Orcera, came to the book table to introduce Joy to his sister-in-law, who likes to read the tracts that Joy gives out. Over a year ago Pepe confessed that he did not believe in all the idolatry but that he believes what Joy believes. Joy says, "Pray for him that if there has been a true work of faith in his life that he will also see the need to come and join with us in God's house on the Lord's Day. His wife would not be interested in scriptural things, but his daughter has from time to time accepted the gospel literature." Pray for Pepe and his family. The town of Orcera has no Christians at this time; pray that the fear of man will not stop them from coming out for Christ.

Please continue to pray for Spain. It is a needy country with no real interest in the things of God. Pray that God will send his Holy Spirit to move and work in the hearts of dying men.

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

The Hannas write that after the summer months it is always a struggle to get things moving again. John says he fights with this every year, but the culture proves stronger. The church is doing outreach in the local open-air market and has had some opportunities to give a personal witness. Many tracts and booklets have been handed out.

Please pray for the "Youth Sabbath" which will be held the last Sunday in October, the Lord willing. Please pray also for the youth fellowship that meets each Saturday evening and for the men's meeting on the first Saturday of each month and the women's meeting on the last Saturday of the month. Please pray for the unsaved attending the services. Pray in particular for Antonia, Carlos, and Alberto.

Mari Carmen has been attending the church for over a year and is now inter-

ested in membership. She spent time with the Mormons, but left them and attended an evangelical church in the center of Madrid. She professed faith, but has never become a member. John will do some Bible studies with her at her home before she comes into membership. Pray for her family, that through her testimony they also will come to the Saviour.

The work in the north of Spain continues to be encouraging. They hope in the near future to officially constitute the church there.

The Hannas are looking forward to the birth of their second grandchild at the end of October. Pray for Miriam and Jonathan, that the Lord will bless them with the safe arrival of this little one and give them wisdom as they seek to raise it in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

John and Noranna are very grateful to all who pray faithfully for them and the work in Spain.

◆ Czech Republic

Liberec—Milos & Martina Solc

The new university year has begun and Milos was once again able to share something of what the Lord has done in his life with new groups of students. Many students showed obvious signs of interest in what they were hearing, since it was something that most of them had probably never heard before. One lady, who is a teacher furthering her education, asked Milos a few questions, including what church he and his family are a part of and what they stand for. She was interested in making contact so that they could talk some more.

At the end of the summer Milos's brother and his family visited from the Toronto church. The Solces invited some friends from the neighborhood for the Sunday morning meeting in their home where Milos's brother gave his testimony. He was also able to speak again in the evening in the rented sanctuary in Liberec and then during the mid-week meeting.

Not long after that visit, the Solces were encouraged by the visit of the McConnells from Northern Ireland. George McConnell spoke at the mid-week meeting tracing the history of the mission work of our denomination with a spiritual emphasis and application. It was a great blessing to all the people here.

David Kohout has now begun his ministerial studies at Whitefield College of

the Bible and is slowly settling into life in Northern Ireland. Please keep him in prayer.

Milos says that he was recently able to visit the family of one of his students from last year. Such meetings are always great opportunities to meet new people and introduce them to the things of the Lord. They are hoping that this young woman, whose name is Veronika, will be able to start coming to some of the meetings. She is from a bit of a distance away, but was hoping to be able to come during the week. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Wesley & Carol Graham

The work in Nepal continues to know the blessing of the Lord. A recent report from Nepal has spoken of people coming to know the Lord through the radio ministry. Punya, the blind evangelist, recently travelled to the middle west of the country and found a number of blind people who were interested to know more of the Christian faith. Some copies of *A New Beginning* booklet in Braille were distributed among these people. It is hoped that Punya will be able to visit them again. Please pray for this vital work.

Rev. Wesley Graham and his wife are doing deputation meetings at the moment in Northern Ireland but are returning to Nepal in November and December to do some lecturing in the college. They are looking forward to the end of November when a number of Nepali men will be ordained to the gospel ministry. A delegation from the Ulster presbytery (including the moderator, Rev. John Greer) will be going to ordain these men. The next day a new presbytery will be established: the Free Presbyterian Church of Nepal. Mr. Graham says, "This is an exciting time for all involved and we value the prayers of God's people for these meetings. Our own role is changing somewhat in that we will not be teaching in the Bible as before, but we will be seeking to help the new presbytery in its initial stages. Prayer most definitely is requested that the Lord would give much wisdom. We again want to thank all those who have continued to pray for us in the work."

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

Rev. David DiCanio says, "Hearing of the Westgate Mall terror attack in Kenya (a place we frequented often while in Nairobi) reminded me both of the need for us to continue to pray for the safety of all our missionaries and how much we need the gospel to take root in volatile Africa."

The efforts to improve security in Dwazon are nearly completed. The entire 1400-foot security wall has been raised to 12 feet, and they are more than halfway done running a high-grade, U.S. embassy-standard razor wire along the top. The security tower is almost finished. The bottom floor will be a guard shack for a daytime guard, the 15-foot level will be a guard tower for the nighttime guards, and the 25-foot top level will house the 1500 gallon water tank. Mr. DiCanio says they had never thought that they would need a guard tower, but it will allow them to save money by reducing the number of security guards needed on the compound at night. The tower will also mean the guards can be kept out of the yard and free of the dogs.

They were able to purchase a five-month-old purebred German shepherd puppy from South Africa for \$1400. That price included shipping and obedience training, but not protection training or poison proofing, something they will need to do themselves. They are also looking forward to acquiring a \$10,000 USD police dog from Northern Ireland free of charge. The dog is bite trained and will enable them to guard the compound at night.

The foundation for house two is completed. When more funds come in they will lay the slab. The security measures took a good chunk of the funds that they had planned to use on the house.

The church in Ballah Creek was saddened by the death of one of its committeemen, Anthony Peters. Mr. DiCanio preached the funeral and the graveside service and very much felt the Lord's presence there. About 250 friends and family attended, some of whom were not saved.

The mission board voted to continue the LTBS radio program on the national government radio station in Liberia for

another year. They are continuing Dr. Alan Cairns' series on the law and are currently airing the messages on the second commandment. In a country that has little by way of television and Internet access, the radio is the primary channel of communication. Mr. DiCanio believes the radio broadcast in conjunction with the bookstore will be the most effective means of reaching the masses with the gospel.

Apart from the \$150 USD per month rent, the bookstore continues to fund its own way with salaries, electricity, and re-purchasing and expanding stock. However, the city of Paynesville recently slapped the store with an enormous fee for signage out front. They wanted \$288 a year for the church headquarters' sign and \$5 per day for the bookstore sign (a total of \$2113 per year). Mr. DiCanio says they promptly took down both signs.

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne Greer says they were able to hold the vacation Bible school in Balla Creek FPMC August 26–30, and were encouraged that over two hundred children attended. She says, "Since this was the first time I've taught there in over three years, most of the kids were entirely new to the concept of sitting quietly and listening, but we have to start somewhere! I've been going back every Thursday since then for a Bible club, and the children are starting to be more attentive."

The reading clubs and Bible club in Paynesville, all of which had decreased in attendance after the robbery, have grown steadily again. Joanne has started meeting with the little children (3–5 year olds) twice a week for what she's calling a story club. She reads to them and teaches them memory verses. These little ones are not allowed to come to the reading clubs, and although they attend Sunday school and Bible club, they don't get much individual attention. Joanne says they are studying the Christian soldier and the armor of God in the Bible club, and the Lord is giving great help in the teaching and the listening.

Please pray for the work over the next couple months, as they near the end of the Sunday school year in Paynesville and prepare for Children's Day in December. Please pray also for some people in the churches who have recently been unwell.

The missionaries have been having problems with the electricity at the property in Dwazon. The main generator

that they've been using for the past eight months broke recently and they're still working on getting it back into shape. Joanne says, "Obviously, this is important not only for everyday 'living' tasks, but especially for the security lights that have been proved so necessary since the robbery. We've been using a small generator from the bookshop in the meantime, but please pray that this issue will be sorted out quickly and properly!"

◆ Kenya

Kapenguria—Kathy Walker

Kathy reports that the choirs, church, and school are busy preparing for the arrival of the group visiting from Ulster to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the mission work in Kenya. The two church choirs will be combining for the joint anniversary service on October 20. Due to the distance between the churches, the groups have been practicing separately. Pray that as they come together they will make a unified sound and bring glory to God and a blessing to those who hear. The school choirs will be presenting a small concert with both secular and sacred sections again. Kathy says they are thankful for the timely replacement of some of the chimes that were sadly out of tune. Pray for the newer members of the choirs, that they will be confident of the pieces they will be singing and/or playing. Remember Nixon as well as he once again directs the concert.

The bookshops continue well with a bit of a facelift from painting and rearranging. They thank the Lord that another rent payment has been made. Do continue to pray regarding the future of the bookshops. Kitale is a rapidly growing, expanding town with new businesses coming into the area as well as the renovation of many of the older businesses. The bookstore's current location is a very good one, but the building is in dire need of roof repair. There is a possibility of new premises for the Makutano shop. Do pray for the Lord's guidance concerning these things.

Kathy will be on deputation in Ulster during November and December and asks prayer as she prepares for the meetings. Pray also for safety in travelling. She thanks all who have been praying regarding the recent terrorist attack in Nairobi.

Kitale—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

The Pattersons are glad to report that their books which they shipped last December are at last in their possession. They made a three-day round trip of about 750 miles to pick them up at a remote place called Marimanti near Mount Kenya. They had planned to travel via Nairobi but were advised against taking that route. It was in the goodness of God that they did not go to Nairobi because the Westgate terrorist attack took place at the time they made that trip.

Malcolm continues to lecture in the Bible college. Pray for the two students who are now over halfway through their course. Also pray for new students to enter the college at the January intake.

Pray for an increase in the little work in Bikeke some twenty minutes' drive from Kitale. Malcolm preaches at the mid-week prayer meeting and sometimes on Sundays. Pray for Shadrack as he leads the work and his wife, Beatrice, as they seek to encourage the small flock.

Alison has completed the first Bible study booklet and has almost completed the second quarterly booklet. Pray for the printing and distribution of these booklets.

There have been some encouragements in the ladies' meetings in Kitale, particularly in respect to two ladies who had been bereaved. They testified at the following ladies' meeting that they endeavored to have Christian funerals and did not follow any of the traditional ways. They both have been harassed by family and strangers since the funerals. Do pray that they would know God's help in the days ahead. Pray that their witness will strengthen the weaker sisters in the congregation. Some ladies live in a neighborhood where illegal brewing of alcohol takes place and this is a stumbling block to them.

Please pray for the Pattersons' parents and their two sons. Malcolm's mother continues to make some progress as she receives physiotherapy to help her recover from a fall in June.

Finally, pray for the safety of the group travelling to Kenya from Northern Ireland. The Pattersons say, "We are looking forward to their visit on a personal level but also are anticipating a time of blessing as we reflect on God's sustaining hand on the work in this part of His vineyard over the past thirty years."

Kitale—Noreen McAfee

Noreen reports that this has been a very busy time at the Christian Academy. The school had a routine inspection in September and was given a grade A. They also had a visit from a performance consultancy advisor who offered some strategies for improving financial security and staff capacity building. She says we should praise God for His help and pray for His guidance for all who manage and run the school.

Mid-term assessments are already underway and all the staff and students are looking forward to meeting the Ulster visitors. They will make two visits to the school, one on October 20 for the Lord's Day services and a second on October 25 for a tour of the facilities, a reception, a school concert, and games. Noreen requests prayer for all these plans: for the safety and good health of the visitors, for favorable weather to enable all the scheduled activities, and for a sense of the Lord's presence as they fellowship together.

National examinations commence on October 22 for form four students (the equivalent of our high school seniors) and continue through to November 15. The eighth grade students take theirs beginning November 11. Noreen asks us to pray that the Lord would uplift His own name in blessing them with good results.

The end of the school year is fast approaching and a number of parents have not yet cleared school fees. Noreen says they are praying that the Lord would enable them to do so very soon.

The annual youth and teens' camps are expected during the December holidays and Noreen asks that we pray for the organizing committee as they make plans for both.

Finally, Noreen requests prayer for one of the school's long-term suppliers who tragically lost his wife in the recent Westgate siege. Please remember their three teenage children as they struggle to come to terms with what has happened. She asks that God might open their hearts to the gospel even as a result of this sadness.

Nyaporo—Gillian Gillespie

Gillian reports there have been encouragements in past weeks as some new folks have come to the meetings in Nyaporo, Mumias. Please continue to

pray that they will see a breakthrough with many coming to a knowledge of salvation.

The little Nyaporo church is looking forward to a visit from the visitors on their final Sunday in Kenya. Pray for a special time of blessing for all who gather.

Please pray for Joseph, one of the older men in the church. He is suffering from prostate cancer and is finding it hard to walk. He has not been able to attend church much since his diagnosis. Remember him and his wife, that the Lord will give them grace to help in their time of need.

The annual teens' and youth camps will be held in December. Pray for the preparation of the hearts of all who will attend. Pray that all these young people will be wholly committed to the Lord in all areas of their lives. Pray also for the health and safety of the missionaries in Kenya as they go about their daily business for the Lord.

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

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