

Missionary Prayer Bulletin



August 2019

NORTH AMERICA

◆ Jamaica

Little London—Richard Craig & Randy Gunnings

The congregation of the Free Presbyterian Church of Little London, Jamaica, wholeheartedly thanks their brothers and sisters for their donations that made it possible for them to purchase a new 2016 mini bus.

Richard and Randy say, “We know that this love gift would not have been possible if the Lord did not place it upon the hearts of His people. We acknowledge that we serve a God who is true and real and who answers the cries of His people. For many months, we were in much prayer for the old bus to be repaired or to have a replacement. In approximately four months, we received the great announcement from the mission board that the money was raised for us to purchase a new bus. Now with the new bus, we are able to transport more than half of the congregation much more comfortably.”

Please pray that they would see many souls come to Christ. Pray also for spiritual growth among the children, youth, and the elderly of the congregation. Pray for protection of God’s people since violence in the area has increased. They thank the Lord that so far He has kept them from the evil and the lawlessness that surrounds their community.

Over the past three to four months, they have been seeing an increase in numbers in the congregation as a result of visitation. Pray that the Lord will continue to speak to these people and draw them to Himself through the preaching of the Word.

Please pray especially for two of the elderly women in the congregation, Ms. Ina and Ms. Wallace, who are feeble in body. In spite of their infirmities these ladies are very faithful in their attendance and fellowship.

Please pray for Richard as he continues his studies for the ministry. Pray that the God of all grace will direct his steps.

◆ Mexico

Mexico City—Jason & Danielle Boyle

The Boyles were happy to receive the FPCNA mission team on August 15. Please pray for the evangelistic English classes and the distribution of *A New Beginning* booklets in Spanish. Please pray that as the gospel goes out, lives would be transformed and that new people would come into the church seeking the Lord.

The Mexico City VBS went very well with a reasonable turnout. The children’s efforts in learning the Bible stories and memory verses were encouraging. It was also encouraging to see that the majority of the neighborhood children who came are ones who have come to the church’s VBS several times in the past. Please pray for lasting fruit.

A team from the Mexico City church went to a sister church in Tehuacán, Puebla, to do the same VBS there. They are a church plant and this was their first VBS, so the team did a three-day trial VBS for them. The number of children that came and the participation of the local church was very encouraging. Also, the church thanks the Lord for the contacts that were made.

The Boyles praise the Lord for the election in July of a new deacon, Alberto Cruz. His participation as a deacon will be a help as the church continues to look for a new meeting place to purchase or rent.

EUROPE

◆ Spain

Madrid—John & Noranna Hanna

John and Noranna Hanna express their gratitude to all who faithfully remember them before the throne of heavenly grace. They also are thankful for the prayers for the works they are involved in.

John says they have finally gotten their building permit and the work can now begin. Since August is vacation month in Spain, there

has been some delay in the actual beginning of the work. However, they have had a meeting on site of those in charge of the project and it is hoped there will be some work done during the last week of August. From the beginning of September it should be full speed ahead and they are hopeful that the first floor will be completed in three months. The Lord’s people in Alcorcón have been greatly encouraged with the granting of their building permit.

The work in Toledo continues with much encouragement. Each week there are new visitors. Three new families continue to come and have expressed their desire to become part of the work. Marcos, the pastor, is presently on holiday and the elders are doing a good job. Jonathan Hanna is doing the weekly Bible study on Friday evenings.

Pray for John and Noranna as they travel each week between Alcorcón and Toledo, as John continues to preach in both places each Sabbath. He says with the very high temperatures they have had for such a prolonged time, he is looking forward to a break in the month of September. Please continue to pray for both churches that the Lord will supply all their needs both spiritually and financially.

AFRICA

◆ Liberia

Monrovia—David DiCanio

Rev. David DiCanio reports that he enjoyed having the team of eight from the United Kingdom to help in the work. The team primarily helped with the children’s Independence Day program and with VBS. The Rev. Patrick Baker, minister of the Free Presbyterian Church in London, led the team and preached at all the church meetings—two prayer meetings and one church service.

Mr. DiCanio also appreciated the help of first-year Whitefield College student Jonathan Storey from Ballymoney FPC. Jonathan

preached at most of the services and helped Joanne Greer with the Sunday school.

The mission church continues to get a steady stream of visitors from the radio station and is getting very near to outgrowing the building they are renting.

Monrovia—Joanne Greer

Joanne is thankful for the help she has had with the children's work this summer. Whitefield student Jonathan Storey and Elizabeth Edwards, a Christian school trainee teacher, travelled from Northern Ireland to Liberia in June to spend some extra time shadowing the missionaries before the Youth Council team arrived on July 22. Jonathan and Elizabeth taught Sunday school classes, taught in the Friday Bible Club, helped out with the weekly Reading Club, helped with preparation for the annual vacation Bible school, and sorted and cleaned all the Reading Club books at the church.

While Jonathan was assisting Mr. Di-Canio, Elizabeth worked on a few additional projects for Joanne: tutoring a young man in math, helping with reading lessons, preparing and laminating Sunday school visuals, sorting and assessing used textbooks that have been donated in past years, and accompanying Joanne on visits to a few local schools to learn more about the challenges in the educational system in Liberia.

The other six members of the Youth Council team arrived in time to assist with the annual Games Day, which is held on July 26, Liberian Independence Day. They were thankful for a sunny day in the midst of the rainy season. The children enjoyed the races and games, but the helpers appeared to be in a state of near-exhaustion at the end of the day!

Joanne says they were thankful for the Lord's help during VBS, held July 29 to August 2. They required the children to register again this year, which really cuts down on a lot of confusion while taking attendance each day. This year 103 junior children (ages 4–10) and 72 senior children (11–18) registered, and, in spite of heavy rain almost every day, attendance was good!

They rented a nearby school that had ample space but no ceilings, and the sound of the rain beating on the tin roof made teaching quite a challenge. They were able to set up a loudspeaker system in each room by the middle of the week which helped. The junior children studied the "I am" sayings of Christ, and the seniors studied the law of God.

Please do pray that these children, many of whom attend the VBS each summer but go to other churches throughout the year (or don't

attend church at all), will remember what they have heard at VBS and that the Word will bear fruit in their hearts. Please also pray that those who do not have a good church will respond to the invitations to attend Sunday school and Bible Club at the FPC mission church.

◆ **Uganda**

Nsaalu—Stephen & Ruth Miller

Stephen Miller sends greetings from Emmanuel Church in Uganda. The missionaries there are thankful for the Lord's faithfulness and strength in the work of the church over the past few months.

The Sunday school has now completed Bible lessons on the earthly life of the Lord Jesus. They are continuing into the Book of Acts and considering the life of Peter. The children are learning the Child's Catechism and are nearing the end of the 129 questions on Bible history. They are currently learning Psalm 121 and it is hoped they will have memorized the whole Psalm by the end of this term. Stephen says it is encouraging to have some of the young men helping to conduct the Sunday school each week.

The folks who attend the Tuesday evening church prayer meeting are learning some doctrine questions and answers in Luganda (one of the languages spoken in Uganda). Having learned the answer, they then examine some proof texts from Scripture. This is proving to be a good way of reinforcing biblical doctrine, while also giving the missionaries an opportunity to practice speaking in Luganda! Pray that those who attend the church will believe sound doctrine and be able to prove it from Scripture.

A faithful group of people work with Andrew Foster and Stephen Miller in the weekly evangelism on Sunday evenings. Stephen says it is a blessing to see their eagerness to reach their neighbors with the gospel. The Lord has given them many opportunities to present the gospel to those they live among. It is encouraging to see people coming into the church and attending regularly after being contacted in this way. Please continue to pray that many in the local community will receive the Lord Jesus Christ.

Some folks who live nearby have started attending the Sunday evening service. This is very encouraging as the evening service is after dark and almost everyone has to walk. With the older students who board at the school present, the number in attendance normally exceeds sixty. Learning new hymns is a feature of this meeting and the singing always lifts the heart at the end of a busy day.

It is also an opportunity for some of the men to gain experience in preaching and testifying. Recently one of the men testified of how the Lord had delivered him and many of his family from worshipping idols at a family shrine. He spoke of the wonder of God's grace in his life. Pray that the men will grow spiritually as they serve in this way and that God will call some to full-time ministry.

A group from Hebron FPC in Ulster visited at the end of June. They conducted a Bible club for the children of the school. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting the visitors and participating in all the activities they organized. At the beginning of July members of the Mission Board came to review the progress of the work and to conduct the annual general meeting of the organization in Uganda. The missionaries were thankful that all went well during this busy time.

On Sunday, July 7, the visitors conducted special services for the parents and family members of the school children. About 450 people from the local community attended these meetings and shared in the special lunch provided. Pray that this will strengthen their ties with and witness in the local community.

Pray also for the many children who professed faith through the witness of the Bible Club. Stephen says, "We look to the Lord to keep those that are His as many will encounter difficulty from unsaved family members and friends." He continues, "We are very thankful to each one for your prayers and practical support for us. Pray that the Lord will give to us the power of the Holy Spirit. It is always a privilege to serve the Lord in any way and we trust in His grace to use us according to His perfect plan."

Nsaalu—Noreen McAfee

Noreen thanks God for many answers to prayer in recent weeks. She says they had a wonderful time in July with the VBS team from Ballymoney and Magherafelt. The children thoroughly enjoyed the various activities and, best of all, many professed faith in Christ. She asks us to pray that each one would grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. Most are from Roman Catholic and Muslim homes so they will need to be nurtured in the things of God at school. One of the teachers, Madam Juliet, also received Christ as her Saviour a couple of weeks later and is rejoicing in the Lord.

Noreen says they also had a good time with the Mission Board representatives who visited, and she requests prayer for the Lord's continued guidance and help in every aspect of the work at Emmanuel.

They hope to apply very soon for full registration for the primary school and trust that this will be approved.

Noreen asks us to continue to remember the sick ones in prayer. She says that Blessing and Daniela are making good progress but require ongoing treatment. She also requests prayer for Madam Betty's family as they mourn the loss of their mother.

This year's candidates in both seventh grade and senior four are already sitting for their mock papers in preparation for their final exams in the fall. Other classes are taking their regular end-of-term exams before school closes August 22 for a short break. Pray that the Lord would help all the children to do well for His glory.

◆ Kenya

Kapenguria—Margaret Russell

The last time Margaret sent in a report Kenya was in severe drought, but God has been gracious to them once again in sending much-needed rain. July is always a very lean month for food, for business, and for families, but they are thankful that there is hope of harvesting and easier days ahead.

God also has been merciful to His people in keeping His hand upon them and giving them many opportunities in the service of God in Kenya. The work of evangelism goes on each week through the bookstalls, the bookshop, visitation, and through the preaching of the Word.

August is a school holiday month and during this time meetings are planned for the women, youth, and children. Please pray for these special efforts in the gospel. Two vacation Bible schools will be held August 19–23, one in Kitale and the other in Nyaporo.

The academy, while having many difficulties over the last term, has witnessed a move of the Lord among the older primary school pupils. At least ten of them have professed faith in Christ. Margaret asks us to pray much for these students that they will grow in grace and be effective witnesses among their fellow students and families.

At the beginning of September the academy will commence its third and final term of the year. The last term will be one of intense preparation for national examinations for both primary and secondary. Good performance is essential for the students and the school. Do pray much for these important final months of the school year. Pray also that God will meet the many financial needs of the academy.

Margaret is planning her retirement from the work in Kenya in 2020. She asks us to

pray much for God's guidance and help. It is not easy trying to finalize matters related to work she has been involved in for so many years. Pray particularly that God will raise up someone to coordinate the ongoing work in the Sunday schools.

Margaret asks us to pray for salvation blessing in her own family and also in the families of Kenyan pastors and church members. They long that there would be a real move of the Lord when their loved ones will turn from sin unto Christ. Rev. Ian Harris (Margaret's brother-in-law) is now halfway through his course of chemotherapy and values prayer for the remaining treatments.

Kitale—Malcolm & Alison Patterson

On July 7 they commenced broadcasting 15-minute *Let the Bible Speak* programs on a third radio station, Labao FM, which means that they now have radio coverage from West Pokot to the north of Kitale right down to over 30 kms (about 19 miles) beyond Kakamega.

The team of broadcasters is also increasing. Evangelist Patrice and Pastor Andrew are preaching alongside Malcolm, and Margaret and Alison are recording addresses for children. They have also invited those visiting from Northern Ireland to record their testimonies for broadcast.

The Pattersons travelled to Northern Ireland for Alison's third annual scan which was all clear. Over the next two years she will be supervised by colorectal nurses and then see the surgeon at the end of the five-year supervision period. They are thankful to God for His mercies and to the people of God for their prayers.

They returned to Kenya on August 12 and had an important meeting on the 14th in connection with obtaining a church registration under the Societies Act of Kenya.

During the week of August 19 the Nyaporo and Bikeke Fellowships will be holding vacation Bible schools. Pray for the teams of Kenyans, led by Mercy and Benson, who are laboring with the boys and girls.

Continue to pray for the book table ministries in Kitale and Shianda and for the young people manning the stalls fulltime: Godwill, Praxides, and Josephine. Remember also Josephine Kisea, who manages the bookshop in Kakamega.

Pray for the Pattersons and all the Kenyans who will assist them at the Kitale Agricultural Show being held September 18–21 (Wednesday–Saturday). This is the main agricultural show in Northwestern Kenya. They are awaiting the arrival in Nairobi of a container from Revival Movement Association with gospel

tracts for distribution and books sent by those who have contributed to the Mission Board's appeal.

Pray for the young pastors: Pastor Andrew, as he ministers mainly in Bikeke, does evangelism, has book tables in Bikeke and Sibanga, and ministers in a local school on Fridays and the Lord's Day morning during term time; and Patrice, as he ministers mainly in the new fellowship in Kakamega, conducts the Bible study in the bookshop and book table in the town center, and begins a ministry in an open prison outside Kakamega.

Remember in prayer the men who are potential leaders in the various congregations and the Pattersons' families back in Northern Ireland.

ASIA

◆ Nepal

Kathmandu—Joy Gillespie

Joy requests prayer for the English institute. During July and August the business is being examined by the tax revenue department. Pray that all will be in good order and that there won't be any problem renewing the business papers. Please also pray for a Nepali teacher. They had hoped to find one among the Christian community but this has not come to pass. Pray that God will lead them to the teacher of His choosing as they publish the vacancy in the local website.

Also remember the renewal of the children's home as it is still being completed for this year. At present the children are studying hard for their exams. Pray that they will know God's hand upon them. Pray also for those children that are not saved that God will draw near and open their hearts to hear His truth.

Pray for the church congregation. It is monsoon season and a number of homes have been flooded along with the English institute. Joy thanks God that it has been nothing too serious so far and asks that you will continue to remember this area of Asia as the rains will continue for another month.

Thank you for your interest in and prayers for the work of God in Nepal.

◆ South Korea

Seoul—Seongkyu & Sooyoun Lee

Seongkyu reports that by God's grace the Free Presbyterian Church in Korea is doing well.

Please pray for Christians in Korea to have the right response to the present turmoil in their country. Diplomatic relations with Japan

have been severely strained over the treatment of Koreans who suffered at the hands of the Japanese during Japan's colonization of the Korean Peninsula before and during World War II. The situation is very painful and complicated. It is linked with religious issues as well as historical, political, and economic ones.

Seongkyu says there are many different opinions about it in Korea and few churches are reacting sensitively to the issues. Please pray that Korean churches will not be caught up in political issues, but instead be true to spreading the gospel.

During the past few months the Korean Free Presbyterian Church has been continuing its work for the gospel. Sam and Jung Lee have opened their home for college students, and many meetings are held there. This is a new experience for the young people, and they are all planning to invite non-believing friends to share the gospel with them starting next semester.

The church is also planning a summer retreat in August. For three days they hope to have fellowship and study the Word of God. The congregation has invited several of their fellow workers and friends, and a few of them are planning to attend. Through this retreat, they hope to become more mature in the faith by studying about Christ and the gospel. Please pray for spiritual growth for the congregation and their young people.

is from South Australia originally and who has now completed his four years of study in Whitefield College of the Bible. Please pray for him as he takes up the full responsibility of the ministry for the first time during these months.

Beginning in mid-September, a number of towns and localities in the Eyre Peninsula will be hosting their annual agricultural shows. Each year the Lock congregation seeks to man a stall at a number of these in order to have a gospel influence. They usually make up a number of bags of gospel literature which they give out to people as they go past. Please pray that as the literature is distributed and as the church people seek to engage people in conversations, the Lord will use all of this for the salvation of the lost and the glory of His name.

Brethren, pray for us.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:25

AUSTRALIA

Perth, Western Australia—*Philip & Cherith Gardiner*

The church in Perth has had some outreaches recently at some significant sporting events at Perth Stadium. They have been able to distribute many more gospel leaflets than they normally do in the city center. Please pray for fruit to abide following that distribution.

A creation seminar is planned for November. Please pray that some visitors might come to that meeting. The church would also appreciate prayer for new families from the area to come to its services.

Port Lincoln—*Kyle & Eppie Graham*

From the beginning of September until mid December, the Graham family will be on deputation in Northern Ireland. Please pray for them as they travel and for Kyle as he conducts the various deputation meetings.

While the Grahams are away, the church will be looked after by Matthew Higgins, who

See the FPCNA Mission Board website at www.fpcnamissions.org for more news, prayer requests, and pictures. For more information about missionaries serving under the Ulster Mission Board see www.fpcmission.org.