

Mission News – June 2020
(please try to use prayer guides daily)

MONDAY – Today, please remember and pray for our partnership in Ghana with **the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu, Bishop of the Diocese of Ho**, our Companion Diocese. About 63% of Ghanaians call themselves Christian, but many have only a tenuous link to a church, and attendance figures rarely top 10%. African traditional worldview and practices too often lie beneath a veneer of Christianity; this dual spirituality is the greatest challenge to the Church in Ghana....Pray that the true gospel may shine into the hearts of those who call themselves Christians but who are not born from above. Pray for a decisive break from all fetishism and occult bondage, and that true liberty in Jesus is found. (Source: Operation World)

TUESDAY – Terence & Jasmine Chandra (Central Saint John Community Ministry) have had to rethink what they do and how they do it both in their community work and in their work as interim priests at Stone Church with pandemic restrictions. When time permits, Jasmine has been helping the Emergency Food Program with packing and organizing the groceries that are distributed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Terence is continuing his English Language Bible Studies online via Zoom conferencing (with better attendance!). Similarly, The Kids Lead program and Jeunes Leaders en Action program (Samuel de Champlain School) have moved to zoom video meetings as well, where kids are given information on the needs of certain organizations in our city. They hope to resume the Friday Night Supper Club when school (St. John the Baptist/King Edward) reopens and Jasmine and Erin Rideout look forward to being able to offer workshops on ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). In addition, they hope to form two more Emmaus Way Teams (support struggling individuals or families) once restrictions are lifted. Please pray that T & J will receive the grace, strength and necessary finances needed for all these things.

WEDNESDAY – Open Doors reports that there are unconfirmed reports that North Korea's Supreme Leader, **Kim Jong-un**, is experiencing serious health issues. However, the government has not made any public announcement about Kim Jong-un. There is growing speculation, however, that his sister, **Kim Yo-jung**, could succeed him as North Korea's next Supreme Leader. North Korea is the world's most dangerous country to be a Christian, and this news has the potential to significantly disrupt its society. Believers there face immense danger and their situation is unlikely to improve if a change of leadership does occur. In fact, it could even worsen.

THURSDAY – Pregnancy Resource Center of Saint John is grateful that clients are still calling even though their physical office is closed and also some faithful volunteers are able to "meet" with clients over the phone. Please pray for those clients choosing between parenting, placing for adoption or abortion and for their mentors as they lead those conversations. COVID-19 has created havoc

with the Center's major fundraising events for this year. A team is putting together their first virtual Steps for Hope on **June 13th**. Pray for great success of this important event. Pray for new ways to connect with supporters and for an increase in monthly donors. Pray, too, for clients struggling to parent with no school and no regular lunch programs and for those who have various mental health issues at the best of times and which now can be made worse with social isolation and no family support. God knows the needs!

FRIDAY – John Buchanan (Saint John Food Basket) provided an update on their present situation with the pandemic. "We're still operating ... Wednesdays and Fridays ... 10:00- 11:00 and 12 Noon- 2:00PM. We have suspended client choice service and are giving a good selection in bags to our clients. We're asking clients to line-up outside observing distancing protocols, etc. ... we're letting one-person-at-a-time in to be served ... it takes about 2-3 minutes in & out. We find many of our client community are afraid of going out and with those we do serve we see a definite look of desperation. Needs? ... monetary donations would be good ... I am starting a fresh milk program and that would help me purchasing milk products for distribution. This is a new program for us ... we've never provided milk. Other Food Banks provide canned milk or powdered but that's not the same." Pray for wisdom, grace and safety for John and the volunteers.

SATURDAY – Please continue to pray for **Hellen Adano and Family (Marsabit, Kenya)** even though restrictions no longer allow us to support the Adano family financially as in the past. We are frequently reminded in Scripture that widows and the fatherless are not to be forgotten by His Church. Pray for the special ministry Hellen, a widow herself, has as deaconess at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Marsabit to other widows in the area. Please pray as well for the Adano Trust Fund recently established in memory of Bishop Andrew Adano to help provide an education for children of nomadic herders and farmers in the region by means of scholarships. In addition to the cost of school fees, local unrest and tribal disputes make it a challenge for most parents to obtain an education for their children. Pray for peace and stability in the whole country.

SUNDAY – Reverends Rod & Lisa BrantFrancis (Tyendinaga, Ontario) Lisa writes, "The life of the church community has drastically changed these last weeks and things appear like they may continue in this distancing vein for some time. It is a challenge for us to help our church elders who are not with cellular phones or internet connections to feel connected to the church." Some specific requests were shared: their own health (Lisa has voice/throat issues and Rod has seasonal allergies which cause people to panic who forget that allergies existed before this rogue virus!); creative ways for connecting people who are not electronically savvy; live and recorded service planning and delivery; revamping of Bible Study; Parish Newsletter ideas & delivery; conducting physical distancing funeral services to grieving families; increase in Parish finances and finishing of the Parish website set up. A personal prayer request is for Lisa's Mom (Mare or Marilyn) who is battling pancreatic cancer..