

Mission News – October 2021
(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. This month please focus on the following Christian “help ministries” in your prayers: (1) Bible translation in over 34 languages. (2) Literacy programs now underway using audio cassettes and also the Bible League’s church-planting literacy project. (3) Literature and the importation and distribution of Bibles and the challenges in running an economically viable, indigenous publishing ministry. (4) Christian films with the JESUS film in over 34 languages. (5) Other media such as radio, TV and websites

TUESDAY – **Mark & Cheryl Orr (Leadership Training Ministries)** have a busy fall ahead of them. We can help with our prayers: (1) Mark and a growing team will be travelling to Bogota, Colombia **in October** for two weeks of intense leadership training of key regional leaders from 7 countries. Pray for both work visas for staff and Orr family visa renewals. Pray, too, for lifting of COVID restrictions for Colombia travel. (2) Pray for continued design processes for their ongoing initiatives and for volunteers to consider coming long term on staff. (3) Their adopted daughter **Siarah** attends a special school for children with emotional and mental health issues. Please pray for her healing and continued growth as well as for needed finances to meet costs of her schooling. (4) The Orrs have been supporting a Refugee Mom and her two young children work through post trauma processes and helping with rent of an apartment for the family. Pray that others will be moved to join this family’s financial support team. (5) Pray for the logistics and funding for people to be able to come to a leadership conference Cheryl will be hosting in Greece on **October 17th**.

WEDNESDAY – **Fred (Mimi) Dungganon, Executive Director of Dawn for the Poor (project of Overseas Missionary Fellowship, Philippines)** writes that there has been “a time of grieving and a time of celebrating” during the past months of the pandemic. Personally Fred’s family is grieving the passing of his sister **Carmen** who had been with them for the past 6 years helping them care for their son **Alab**, especially when he and Mimi both were busy with ministry, as well as taking care of **Jerome**, Fred’s brother who has disabilities. However, they are also celebrating with Dawn for the Poor’s 25th Anniversary on **September 5th** and a new baby expected this **November**. Some prayer requests are that Fred will be able to finish writing and also able to secure funding to publish his first book, *A Journey of the Poor*, a history of Dawn for the Poor with stories of the movement and the best practices in holistic church planting. He would also appreciate prayer for his speaking schedule in churches and for new ministry partners. Mimi asks for prayer for a safe, healthy pregnancy and that she can practice more of her counselling skills with their leaders and youth in conjunction with overseeing their sponsorship program (360 children from elementary to university). A big prayer request is Project 25, a 3 year exit plan where their current house churches will appoint their own pastors with interdependence between each other and full dependence on the Lord. The focus will then move to two new locations which have no existing house churches.

THURSDAY – **Ron & Leng Kue Viergutz (Overseas Missionary Fellowship, North Thailand)** are praising God for the 69 precious students at Phayao Bible Seminary (PBS) this term. A good number of them are more mature and experienced in ministry than have been enrolled before in many years. Pray that the Lord will change students’ lives, preparing them to serve and spread the Gospel where missionaries cannot go. Special prayer is asked for God’s encouragement and protection for the 10 students on a 10-month practical (internship) ministry assignment with restricted movement and activities due to the pandemic. Other prayer needs are: (1) recruitment of urgently needed full-time staff, (2) sudden adaptation of the teaching timetable due to guest lecturers’ own unpredictable

ministry schedule, (3) an end to the violence and unrest in the Deep South of Thailand which has been ongoing since 2014, (4) a Children's Outreach by PBS students in Oct or Dec, and (5) guidance and wisdom to improve administrative structure and practice, with hopes of qualifying to apply for Asian Theological accreditation.

FRIDAY – Reverends Kara & Nelson Mejia (South American Mission Society, Roatan Island, Honduras) report that they are once again in the hole financially but hope to recover over the fall. They are also hoping to return to Canada in the spring for deputation if travel restrictions are eased. Presently, all Canadian flights have been cancelled. Many Hondurans are facing financial hardships as well due to the pandemic. Cruises have begun coming twice a week but this is not even half the usual number. The majority of the islanders depend on tourism dollars. Kara emailed, *Financial difficulties bring a rise in crime. The need to minister has never been greater during this time, offering hope all around... On a positive note, our son **Stephen** has now started 2nd year of university at Providence in Winnipeg... It has been difficult with him away from home and not seeing him but it makes me a proud mother to hear of his accomplishments.* Please pray for all the Mejia family (including their daughter **Kelly** still at home) and for their two churches in Coxen Hole and Brick Bay that God will protect them from the virus, give wisdom in responding to pressing social needs and cause their congregations to be a blessing to their hurting communities.

SATURDAY – Jonathan Clarke (National Director, Threshold Ministries National Office) writes, *Thank you for your continued support. We are truly blessed to be supported by Stone... We are in the process of renegotiating our work with Corrections Canada and your prayers would be appreciated in this area. The Street Hope Projects across the country have adapted to new ways of operating in the Pandemic and they have had a difficult time. In May of last year we added a new ministry called "Ripples of Us". This is run by **Mark & Karen Cooney**. "Ripples of Us" hopes to create a ripple of the love of Jesus wherever they go. Saint John Inner City Youth Ministry continues to use our building on Mountain View Drive as a base for putting together and distributing the food and items they share. Threshold House is getting closer to completion and we hope to be able to welcome some men into the program soon. This will be an exciting project for us and we are hoping to complete the alterations asap.* Please pray for these initiatives that Jonathan has mentioned and to God be all the glory.

SUNDAY – Shiloh (linguistic organization in West Asia) is praising God for opportunities to use her training to help with checking portions of Luke in a southern dialect (in both written and oral format) and with arranging the recording and distribution of a short animation film about the purposes of sacrifices that was recently translated into the local poetic language. Praising God as well for an excellent voice actor for the recording of Genesis in the poetic language. She asks for prayer for the funding for these and future recording projects. The hope is to have the whole Torah (first five books of the Bible), plus some Gospels recorded over the next two years. Pray, too, that the recordings will reach people and for God's ideas for distribution. Finally, pray for a good transition for new team members into language learning and into their new roles in the team and for Shiloh's spiritual, emotional and physical refreshment and protection.