

Mission News – March/April 2026

(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**. The 2008 oil boom in western Ghana has sadly also fueled a rise in child prostitution. The Bible Society of Ghana empowers young girls to resist predators and pressures from families and peers. In 2025, the Bible Society distributed over 1,600 Bibles and 3,600 Scripture portions, reaching 8,500 girls through counselling and education on abuse, peer pressure, and teenage pregnancy. Pray for these efforts to rescue vulnerable teenage girls and for the church in Ghana's response to the evils of this pressing social issue.

TUESDAY – **David & Rhonda Peterson (Newcomer Connections and Dayspring)** send along the following news: (1) David has made a good recovery from his knee surgery and Rhonda, although not completely pain-free (plantar fasciitis), is working toward her goal of 5 km a day, five times a week. (2) Both David and Rhonda helped out with their church's recent Alpha program and the program's day retreat was held at Dayspring. (3) **Mina** and **Hossein** are still waiting for news concerning their private sponsorship application. Pray for God's grace in facing the unknown (it's been several years) and for God to open the door for them soon. (4) Pray for David as he assists **Basel**, his supervisor at Newcomer Connections. He is praying for opportunities to share the gospel with him and his other coworkers. Many newcomers are Sudanese and are in need of urgent health care and counselling. (5) Pray for David and Rhonda as they host many newcomers at Dayspring. Pray for God's grace and blessing as they open their hearts and home to those new to our city. "I was a stranger and you took me in" (Matthew 25:35).

WEDNESDAY – **Reverends Terence & Jasmine Chandra** are kept busy overseeing the varied ministries of **Pennies and Sparrows: Foodie Fridays** which meets every Friday to cook and serve up healthy and hearty meals. The program is run by **Miriam Westin** who ensures that attendees experience a sense of community as everyone is given a role in preparing the meal. *The Stone Cafe*, their Drop-In program, where guests can enjoy conversation, a snack, and access to professional services which include: Fresh Start which helps secure housing; a Service Canada representative who helps with accessing various government services; a Horizon Health nurse who provides foot care, flu vaccines, and health teaching; and a hairdresser! **Jennifer Hallihan**, the Community Navigator for the Waterloo Village Neighbourhood, plays an integral part in the provision of these services. Other regular programs of Pennies and Sparrows include *Youth Connection*, a weekly gathering held every Friday evening and *Seniors Present*, a monthly seniors program (entertainment and seniors sharing their expertise) and a bi-monthly craft and chat group. Please pray for the staff, volunteers and those attending these programs will know "the Spirit of the Lord is in this place".

THURSDAY – For over 20 years, **Dawn for the Poor or Bukang Liwayway (BL)**, an **Overseas Missionary Fellowship Project** in **Manila, Philippines**, has ministered to the poor subsisting in ever expanding slum communities of this mega city. One of BL's ministries is their *Health Ministry* where nurses and volunteers do health teaching and provide medication and follow-up of Tuberculosis patients. Some of these patients come to know Jesus and become part of BL's house churches. *The Child and Youth Program* provides 196 children with an education under their sponsorship program and also provides discipleship activities (Youth Camps and Kids Camps). *The Church Movement Program* equips leaders and emerging leaders through ongoing

training. *The Livelihood Program* assists women in providing for their families by helping them develop their artistic gifts, providing materials, instruction and markets for their products. Please pray for God's blessing on all these ventures and for the administration staff under the direction of **Fred Dugganon (Executive Director)** who as a child was himself sponsored under BL's Education Assistance Program.

FRIDAY – Ann Elawa (Power to Change (P2C) in BC) is grateful for recent partnerships with other groups with expertise in online marketing. The goal is to improve “connections with people who are searching for answers amidst everything else vying for their attention”. Pray for Ann as she ministers with P2C Digital strategies by supporting, resourcing and encouraging volunteer mentors as they listen, discern, suggest and pray for their mentees (those who make inquiries on various P2C's digital platforms worldwide), especially those dealing with stress, poor mental health and despair. For her own family, Ann would appreciate prayer for her elderly parents in Moncton and for her young adult son and daughter as they make life choices.

SATURDAY – Open Doors (OD) is strengthening persecuted Christians, often displaced and without hope, in more than 70 countries. They do so by providing Bibles, Christian resources, church training, emergency aid and more to the persecuted church worldwide. Last year, OD supported 9,500,000 Christians around the world and distributed 2,500,000 Bibles and pieces of Christian literature. In Canada, they work to raise awareness of global persecution, mobilizing prayer support and action among Christians. Please pray for OD's ministry to our suffering brothers and sisters in Christ, especially remembering fellow Canadian **Paul Estabrook's** tireless advocacy for the Persecuted Church.

SUNDAY – John Buchanan (Executive Director, Saint John Community Food Basket) writes, “The increases to the cost of food continues to have a negative impact on us. However, we're weathering this fairly well with the wonderful support from our community!” Unfortunately, increases in homelessness and drug use in the Waterloo Village area has “resulted in less than acceptable behaviour...we experience increased abusive behaviour.” Nonetheless, John is quick to point out that their main group of clients are a great support to them in these situations. John is also very grateful for “an excellent group of volunteers; both in operations and on our Board of Directors!” Please pray for continued provision of needed food items and for safety, wisdom and compassion for John, the Board and the volunteers who serve the hungry in our community. *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. Matthew 25:35*