

Mission News – May/June 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**. We typically enter into a Companion Diocese partnership for five years but it can be extended to ten years which is the present situation with Ho. Of foremost importance is our commitment to pray for our companion partner; the reason why Ho is included in each of our mission newsletters. Additionally, we encourage and support our companion partner with advice, resources and finances which was the case when we helped the Diocese of Ho secure a Mobile Medical Clinic. When possible exchange visits are made which Bishop Matthias and Bishop David have done. Both dioceses receive mutual blessings from this partnership. Please pray for Companion Diocese committee members **Bishop David Edwards (ex-officio), Robert Griffin (Chair), Lilian Ketch, Giselle McKnight and Robert Taylor** as they advise our Diocesan Council on all matters pertaining to the relationship with the companion Diocese.

TUESDAY – **Bonnie Hunt**, the Executive Director of **Inner City Youth Ministry (ICYM)** writes that their programs aim to “feed kids and build relationships, all while sharing God’s love”. The *Lunch Connection* program, now operating in 10 schools, provides nutritious lunches and social connections with the volunteers. In the summer, twice weekly (free) picnics are provided to the community in the central peninsula. *Youth Connection* on Friday nights involves youth from Stone Church and from The Church of the Good Shepherd in partnership with Pennies and Sparrows. *Family Connection* has 16 families registered and these are provided with activities and resources to promote strong, healthy family relationships. The *Backpack Program* serves 30 registered families throughout the summer. Every week each family receives a pictorial recipe with necessary ingredients and age-appropriate books and various activities/resources. Finally, their new program *Cooking Connection* has groups of 15 gathering weekly to learn new cooking techniques, new skills or even about a new food! Give thanks to God for ICYM’s 36 years of operation. Pray for them as they seek guidance in discerning His will for future endeavours.

WEDNESDAY – There have been recent changes with **Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship Atlantic**. **Jamie MacArthur** has left his role as Atlantic Team Leader and is now campus minister at Acadia University. **Dan Ingram** is the new Atlantic Team Leader. We were sorry to learn that **Patrick Palmer**, campus minister at UNBSJ campus, has resigned from IVCF for personal reasons. The Saint John IVCF group has 20-30 students with 5 leaders. There have been weekly Bible studies with the women studying Romans and the men studying Genesis. Please pray that this momentum continues when classes resume this fall, for new student leadership as some will have graduated, for more engagement with international students, and for a new IVCF campus worker for UNBSJ. (We can still continue to send support for the UNBSJ campus student group during the present absence of a worker.)

THURSDAY – It has been a challenging year for **Rev. Canon Lisa BrantFrancis** since her husband **Rod** became the new Bishop of Moosonee (May 2025). Rod is financially supported by the Diocese of Moosonee as is the individual looking after Diocesan finances. Lisa, however, is receiving no stipend yet is serving as the Diocesan communications officer and Diocesan office administrator, and is responsible for Episcopal programming. (For this reason, Lisa has been included in our 2026 prayer targets) She needs to get her husband, the Bishop, where he should be when he needs to be there! It has been a very hard winter with much travel on treacherous roads to reach remote communities in

their vast Diocese (second largest in Canada) which encompasses parts of Northern Ontario and Quebec. Praise God for His provision of a new vehicle in March, a 2025 Ford Bronco Sport! Please pray for good health and energy for both Lisa and Rod, safety in travel, adequate rest (usually only at home in Cochrane one week a month and Lisa usually accompanies Rod) and for His joy as they serve their flock..

FRIDAY – Please pray today for the **Pregnancy Resource Center Saint John PRC**. The Center offers a variety of services to their clients: free pregnancy testing, pregnancy options information, material support (diapers, formula, clothing), prenatal and parenting lessons, fatherhood programming, spiritual and emotional support, pregnancy and infant loss support, post-abortion support and more. The Center is a warm and welcoming place where clients feel safe, listened to, accepted and supported regardless of their faith background, cultural, or social-economic status. Pray for the PRC as it reaches out into the community, developing networks with service providers (YMCA Prenatal Classes), churches (Play Cafe at Way Point Church and KD Lunch at Kennebecasis Baptist), schools and other community partners. Pray, too, for PRC staff and volunteers – for vision, energy, wisdom, protection and compassion - and for two important fundraisers: *Steps for Hope (May 23rd)* and the *Baby Bottle Campaigns*.

SATURDAY – **L’Arche Saint John** is part of an “international network of communities in over 35 countries! Each community is unique, but all share the goal of creating spaces where people with and without intellectual disabilities can live, work, and belong together.” Among their many activities, L’Arche Saint John would appreciate prayers for their annual Creative Connections art show and sale on **May 9th**. This one-day exhibit will feature the works of 17 talented artists with disabilities, showcasing a range of styles and media. As well, L’Arche Saint John continues to celebrate their 20th anniversary this year with an anniversary campaign, *20 for 20*, focused on deepening their impact and building toward the next 20 years. The goal: 20 new monthly donors, 20 business gifts of \$200 and 20 community stories from the people who have shaped their community. Pray for the success of their campaign and that Saint Johners will learn about, connect with, and step up to support our own L’Arche community.

SUNDAY – **Mark (Cherilyn) Orr (Leadership Training Ministries or L5 for short)** is involved in missions on three fronts: in their home in Greece, in their local community and globally. (1) They have a “*missional home*” with 3 biological children, 4 adopted children, other foster children, grandchildren, (Mark’s) interns, young adults needing mentoring, and missionaries needing rest. It’s a safe place where people feel seen, heard and valued. (2) Reaching out to their own community, a *House Church Fellowship* gathering meets weekly with about 18 international people from South America, Europe, Asia and beyond. (3) Globally, in previous year, Mark conducted group training sessions in the Balkans, in the Amazon, as well as elsewhere. This year, however, he is meeting one-on-one with a select group of young leaders. He is also developing a new collaborative platform on the verge of being launched with a pilot partner network focused on front line member care. He is also redesigning L5 curriculum which needed updating with a focus on a new generation of Ugandans! Praise God for raising up a new generation of Christian leaders. Ask for God’s continued blessing on L5 endeavours to meet this end.

No newsletter in July and August.