

April 2019

18. Samuel & Sabine Anderson write: "How is Lia doing?" is the question we are constantly being asked. Looking back at the last eight months, Lia has made much progress. However, the progress is slow, as Lia has been weakened by chemotherapy and complications since December. The situation is very challenging for our family and drains our strength. The fourth round of chemo is under way. An MRI will be done before the fifth round begins in early April. Thank you for praying with us for good results and for complete healing! It's a great privilege to belong to God's family!"

19. Indonesia: Flash floods and mudslides have inundated the town of Sentani in Papua province, killing about 80 people and destroying many homes. About 1,000 people have sought refuge on the property of our partner church. Please pray for the rain to stop and the rescue work to resume. Pray for comfort for those affected and for strength for church leadership and for **Christian and Johanna**, who are helping them.

20. Zambia: Benjamin & Debora Wagner share: "Our annual 'Field Day' was held recently, and coworkers shared about their lives and faith in God. About 300-400 peasant farmers attended. In addition to seminars, Biblical perspectives were presented, followed by a tour of fields where the presented methods are being utilized. We want to convince farmers that they don't need to use expensive fertilizers but can rely on nature-friendly means provided by God instead."

21. Happy Easter! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Join Christians all over the world who give praise and thanks to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for conquering death so that we can be saved from our sins!

Verse of the Week 4: "Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10b

22. Canada: Please pray for the LMC Annual Meeting this coming Saturday 2-4 pm in Moffat. Also, **Markus & Regine Gommel** share: "We are performing a theatre piece titled 'Iman finds Friends', in Bangla-town. We pray this will encourage viewers to attend our monthly meetings, so they might encounter Jesus and follow after Him. We are hoping the same for the badminton participants. We are also looking for two coworkers for building friendships with those women who come to watch. At our meetings this year, we are working through the topic of 'Peace Makers' - the kind of peace Jesus alone can give."

23. Germany: Jana Kontermann writes: "I am with the CVJM, in Münzheim. Thank you for praying for many teenagers to respond to invitations and for God to reveal himself to them as the one who loves them and wants to have a relationship with them."

24. Central Asia: Andreas & Christian share: "Please pray for a Christian teaching aid for one of the teachers at the special-needs school."

25. Malawi: Tobias & Sarah Müller write: "We give thanks to the Lord that, in spite of torrential downpours, visits to churches in the suburbs of Lilongwe were still able to go ahead, along with planned events. Congregational members and leaders were strengthened in their faith and for their ministries. Some regions have experienced intense flooding, death, and destruction. We're praying for comfort for all afflicted."

26. Bangladesh: Wolfgang & Dorothea Stauß are grateful for the good conferences at various church districts in Dhaka and the southern part of the country. We pray for the message to continue to resonate in the hearts of people and to find expression in their lives. We also pray for the church conferences in the north, that God's Word will reach many people.

27. France: Nikolai and Claudia Bolanz write: "The women from our neighbourhood meet every second week. We have six participants now. One of them is of special concern to Claudia. N. and is not doing well at all psychologically, which is also affecting her health. Pray for an opportunity for Claudia to arrange a meeting with her for a more in depth conversation."

28. Papua New Guinea: There is a lot of strife at the Bible School in Popun. The partner church does not want a newly-called teacher to be teaching there and is holding **Gerhard Stamm** responsible. Pray for wisdom so the situation can be clarified through reasonable conversation. Battery acid was dumped into one of the rain water tanks. Please pray for protection.

Verse of the Week: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1

29. Zambia: Matthias & Katja Bachmann write: "This school year, the youth ministry at Amano School was off to a good start. Many of the boarding students attend both groups in the evenings. For day students, there is an additional group. Our colleagues Jarret and Lukundo Furnish will soon be going back to the U.S. This means Katja will then have to manage all three youth groups by herself. Pray for a successor for Jarrett. The teens, especially the boys, will miss him greatly."

30. Intercultural Teams Germany: Klaus-Dieter & Erika Volz share: "We are happy the Chinese congregation in Karlsruhe is growing. We are especially grateful for being able to use the facilities of local congregations for the two newly formed house circles, which are attended by four to five couples and their children, to talk about matters of faith and child-rearing. Pray for still more Chinese from Stutensee and Berghausen to respond to invitations by these groups and for God to continue to bless this work."



April 2019 Prayer Guide



*"This is what is written:
The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead
on the third day,
and repentance and forgiveness of sins will
be preached
in His name
to all nations,
beginning at Jerusalem."*

Luke 24:46 (NIV)

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Verse of the Week: "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

1. Malawi: Katiana Konig: "Malawi was hit by three big tropical storms in March. They caused quite a few deaths from houses collapsing and people being caught in flash floods. Crops have been damaged or washed away. Please pray that the crops recover, and that other areas of the country will have bountiful harvests this year. National elections are happening in May. Please pray that God would guide the citizens as they hear many promises made by people hungry for power - some for their own gain, and some for the well-being of the country. Please pray that I would find friends in Zomba as it is a college and NGO town, and people stay only for a short while."

2. Chile: Andrés & Katrin Vergara write: "C. is the mission candidate for Germany. In April he will start a one year ministry term in Heidelberg/Bruchsal. An organization named "Provision", with which we work here, will be able to move into their new building by May. It offers more space for training and gatherings. Pray for the necessary permission and money for furniture and equipment for our bureau to come in."

3. Central Asia: Matthias, Christine and children have returned to resume their ministry. They will continue to point people to Jesus through word and deed and work in the village development project. Matthias will go back to being team leader. Please pray for a good start and for the children to re-adjust swiftly and make friends quickly.

4. Canada: Paul Knauer: "We thank and praise God for the many new contacts we were able to make at the Missions Fests last month - Mission Fest Manitoba (Feb 1-3) and Mission Fest Alberta (Feb 22-24). Please pray that these new contacts will grow into healthy, strong, mutually supportive partnerships in advancing God's kingdom."

5. Ecuador: Ramona Rudolph share: "I have been living in shared accommodations with two young women in Cotacachi. Together we share the word of God with young and old, in Quichua villages. Thank you for your prayers!"

6. Micronesia: Hartmut & Urte Scherer share: "Pacific Islands University was to have a visit by the accreditation body at the end of March. Please pray for a positive assessment, as it will allow students to apply for government funding. In order to facilitate students' transition to more independent living, Alex Tavarez, dorm father and study director, has assigned four or five students to each coworker or instructor. This way, we get to know them better and can mentor them spiritually."

7. Japan: Sister Priscilla Kunz and Peter & Susanne Schlotz write: "Mr. T. has been attending the congregation in Chikusei on a regular basis for two years. Now he's become a member. At the ceremony, he shared about many highs and lows in his life. At the age of six, he decided to follow Jesus and as a teenager desired to become a pastor or missionary. But his life was wracked by many crises, to the point where he sometimes came close to despairing of God. Now he has found a second home and is contributing to the church work.! Pray that his wife would also come to Jesus."

Verse of the Week: "Yet, Lord my God, give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence." 2. Chronicles 6:19

8. Ecuador: Sebastian & Tabea Ruf write: "Having been in the country for about a year, we are asking ourselves where Jesus would like to use us here in the mission work, aside from looking after the Impact team. Pray for God to lead us and to enable us for our future responsibilities."

9. Russia: Waldemar Jesse is currently undergoing coaching training to enable him to better help people with their life challenges. This will also afford him opportunities to meet the residents of Tscheljabinsk. This has already led to a number of interesting encounters and conversations. Pray for God to use Waldemar and make him a blessing for many.

10. Bangladesh: Samuel Strauß has been asked by the College of Christian Theology to develop a course on "Servant Leadership". Please pray for stamina and creativity as he applies himself to this task, in addition to his team-leading responsibilities. Pray also for renewed motivation for the ten to twelve students, as they work at and minister to their organizations and congregations.

11. Malawi: Together with partner church leadership, **Tobias Müller** made visitation rounds in the suburbs of Lilongwe, the capital, in March. They visited churches and offered training sessions for pastors and discipleship courses for congregational members. Pray that their work benefitted all who participated so that God's Kingdom would advance."

12. France: Evelyn Theurer writes: "I was able to teach a unit on 'Evangelization' at the Congregation Bible School. This was also the sermon topic for the following Sunday when I preached at the congregation in La Roche-sur-Yon. Please pray for God to again show me and congregational members what a great gain a life with Jesus is, and that He might give us burning hearts that point others to Him."

13. Ecuador: Sebastian & Tabea Ruf share: "During the Easter season, we plan to visit the villages with the Impacters. Based on an Easter outreach program, they will perform a theatre piece on the theme of 'Jesus is Real'. Pray for God to prepare the hearts of the audience. We've been attending the congregation in Atuntaqui and they have welcomed us into their fold. We are involved with the youth group and have already been able to build some relationships. Pray for us to gain good insights into the culture and that we might be able to hone our Spanish skills."

14. Intercultural Teams Germany: Ms Y and Ms S from Shanghai came to faith through Bible-reading in September and have done a 3-month faith course in Mandarin with Klaus-Dieter & Erika Volz. Now they have been baptized at the congregation in R. Pray both women will abide by their decision to confess Jesus."

Verse of the Week 3: "Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!" Psalm 66:20

15. Tanzania: Markus & Emmi Riegert share: "Unfortunately, we are always facing head winds at the 'Nuru' ministry to handicapped people, and we have a sense that things aren't really moving forward. There are interpersonal differences and now Emmi is having problems with her work visa. Please petition the Lord for a breakthrough, so something new can grow and pray for Emmi's work visa to be renewed for another two years. Also pray that we might soon find a plot for our new bakery, for which we still need a permit, so we can start construction."

16. Micronesia: Please pray for **David Owen** who, in human estimation, is now on the final homestretch of his earthly road. A year after his stem cell transplant he was considered cancer free. But two weeks ago the cancer returned with full force. David and Joyce write: "David is on his way home to God. Thank you for your prayers!"

17. Germany: There is a joyful bustle at the social ministry work at the Oasis in Neubrandenburg, with a lot of things going on. **Aaron & Ilonka Köpke, Elisabeth Walter-Fischer & Herbert Fischer, Jonathan & Melanie Nill**, are currently working there, as well as two "practicants" from Liebenzell University, who will be there until summer. We pray for good rapport and for God's leading for all planning and execution. We pray for Aaron who, in addition to his team-leading responsibility, is also looking after the practicants, and for Jonathan & Melanie, that they will soon know their way around their various work areas and networks, so they can see where to apply themselves most effectively.