

MISSION PRAYER IN DBC. For all those who have taken cards relating to prayer for our mission partners I hope you will continue to remember each of them regularly. The Notes below record points of praise and prayer that were raised at our meeting last Sunday and this will help with updating you on the different partners. Further information may be sent to you from the Church office from time to time and it is planned that prayers for individual partners will be included in the monthly communion services on a rota basis.

Prayer on Sunday 8th January

We opened the Meeting with an extract from an article by Rev John Stott in which he emphasizes that God's promise to Abraham that all the nations of the world would be blessed was the basis for our call to mission. This was of course followed by Jesus's great commission to us. God's heart is for the whole world and all people.

R and S serving the Far East

We prayed particularly for S who, after a fall, has been in hospital (now home) with possibly a tumour on the brain. He awaits a second MRI to see whether this will disappear or will need an operation. The couple believe that God is totally in charge of the circumstances, and we join in praying for a miracle of healing, and that they would have peace and strength at this time. They are thankful that a friend E has been able to stay with their son Josiah when R had to visit S in hospital. We thanked God that all the family are over Covid which they had at Christmas and that S's Mum has been able to travel to be with them.

We also prayed about R's change in employment arising from the University saying that the position she previously held before home leave was no longer available because of a policy of not requiring additional teachers. This is very disappointing as R loved the work and many students liked her and will miss her. The market is difficult but we prayed that she would soon find the most suitable job around.

R and J serving Central Asia

In response to their request we prayed for forthcoming visits (20th to 31st January) of a partner team finalizing the New Testament for the second language in their target country. R and J's team generally work with them remotely but the visit will enable close consultation at this critical stage. It will also involve for R and J use of all the office (and there is much else to do) and considerable fixing of accommodation and hospitality. It will be important to pray also for protection, as spiritual attacks had happened before on this particular translation work.

Holly

It is difficult for Holly in not yet having permanent accommodation, yet she bravely presses on, meeting new people and learning the language and culture, and valuing all the new things around her. There is a workshop planned for the students at the University to give ideas for developing the Christian student centre, with which Holly will be involved professionally as a landscape design consultant. We prayed for progress on all fronts, particularly with the University students.

Bulgaria

We prayed for Pastor Ventzi with the many challenges in Aksakovo church: pastoral concerns, work with the Baptist Union in Bulgaria, possibly still working with the refugees. We pray that he will see abundant fruit through the operation of the Holy Spirit from last year's camps, Christmas services attended by some new people, and outreach in the future.

We prayed for Stacy, who is from that Church but now manages the Agape students work in Sofia. We thanked God for progress with the Agape centre in Varna (near Aksakovo) particularly following the finding of permanent accommodation for that centre.

Julia in South Africa

We gave thanks for Julia's wonderful service to Khaya Cheshire (day centre for disabled children) over many years, and prayed for her future as she returns to the UK. There will be many challenges for this. We also prayed that the new premises being prepared for the work in South Africa will be suitable in all respects, and that Julia will be able to adapt easily.

RW 12/1/23