

## **Notes following prayer for our Mission Partners. 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

Roger reminded the group that that in praying for our partners – in matters of family, finances, and ministry - we need to be alert to God's overall mission for them, and to discern what God may be saying to us. We then have the opportunity to convey this to our partners.

Roger also explained that it was proposed to include a BMS mission partner among the group that we already pray for. A list of ten partners that we could support was distributed, with the request that we pray for the one to be selected. A decision will be made at the next meeting. Please get in touch if you would like further information.

Ukraine. We noted that there are a large number of Christians in Ukraine with considerable growth in the last two years. We concentrated our prayers on the needs of these Christians.

### **Ventzi and Jenya, Baptist Church in Aksakavo, Bulgaria**

Bulgaria will be hosting many Ukrainian refugees. We gave thanks and prayed for the efforts Ventzi, Jenya and members of the Aksakavo church are making to welcome refugees, including releasing funds. Ventzi writes: "Our desire is to show God's love and care through care for Ukrainians fleeing the war. This whole situation allows us as a church to get out of our comfort zone and serve God in a new and different way". We also prayed for the church's plans for Easter and summer camps, and for Stacey's ministry to university students in Sofia.

### **Julia in South Africa**

With Julia celebrating her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday on 17<sup>th</sup> March, we gave thanks for her more than 10 years service for the Lord in South Africa. We prayed for energy, compassion and wisdom as she continues working with children with disabilities, motivating and encouraging them. We prayed about the staffing situation at the Centre that Julia will have adequate support and appropriate involvement of the relevant Trustee/Manager. With water contamination and increased drug related violence and crime, we prayed for Julia's safety, giving thanks for her move to a more spacious and safer apartment. We prayed for her to have clear guidance about her future.

### **S and R (Far East)**

We prayed for the family as they emerge from very severe restrictions applied locally following covid outbreaks, and in particular that R would be able to get her visa issued earlier( both to allow her to continue to teach at the University next year, and to permit the family to return to UK this summer). A decision will also have to be made as to the best type of visa for S to apply for.

We praised God that, following Josiah's return to school on 17 February and R's return to Uni on 28<sup>th</sup>, lessons are now again in person. We prayed again that R will get to know more students as she starts her English Corner again (this is a great opportunity for students to ask perceptive questions of their teacher!).

We prayed that S would have great wisdom and patience with his ongoing 'phone calls and online meetings with those with SSA concerns. It's a long process.

We also prayed for more family time which would allow them to spend time with the right people at weekends.

### **R and J (serving Central Asia)**

We praised God for the successful outcome of the Dubai Conference and the decision to try building an audio based social media funnel for the target languages. Also co-operation with radio teams was very useful.

Valuable time was also spent with the new leadership team to be based in Germany.

We prayed for their children, both making good progress at Uni in Canada, and enjoying other active pursuits.

We praised God that the Marriage Course they have been co-hosting at their church was progressing so well.

### **Andrew and Caroline (in YWAM, Oregon, USA)**

The key prayer was for their 4-year old Samuel who has been recently diagnosed with epilepsy, suffering from seizures likely linked to his hydrocephalus. They have started with medication that appears to be helping. They plan to build up the dose, but our prayer is that it will be effective in preventing seizures altogether.

We continued to pray for the development of training initiatives, particularly for those who want to proceed overseas. Andrew wants of course to carry forward the YWAM Foreign Missions global communications team, which he leads.

We prayed for the completion of the off campus house for the family, and the financial commitment that this will involve.

### **Ben and Emma, formerly in Middle East**

We gave thanks that Ben and Emma and family have settled well into their own home and the children are doing well at their local school. Ben is doing carpentry work, which he is enjoying. The company he works for needs more work for Ben to be retained. We prayed specifically about this. Whilst missing their former home and ministry in the Middle East, we prayed that Emma would be strengthened for her new role with their sending agency (writing, proof-reading and helping to update the Friendship First course, designed to enable churches and individuals to reach out to people of other faiths). We prayed for complete restoration for each member of the family.