

## **Notes on Prayer Meeting for our Mission Partners on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

As explained in the Notices last month, a digest of the Sunday Mission Prayer meetings will in future be prepared for the following week. This is the third one. It is intended to be a guide for individual prayer. If you require further information on any particular partner please get in touch with Roger Wells: it may be possible to include you in the updates that some of them send to us.

**Please make a note of the next date for Mission Partner Prayer Meeting: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5.45 for 6.00 (fifteen minutes later than usual because of the Bereavement Service to be held earlier in the afternoon). We would love to see more joining us for this important ministry.**

We opened with J B Phillips translation of Colossians 1:9b to 11, which we used as a prayer.

We were encouraged by the sermon of Thiago Hernandes the previous week (DBC early service) which emphasized the partnership that should exist between the mission partner and his or her supporting churches, with responsibilities on both sides. Tiago said that partnership is all to God's glory, and if the mission partner is blessed, then we are all blessed.

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

We prayed against the giants of fear in the country, that they would be thrown down. We prayed for the new ventures: the Bible translations; the Bible apps; the extra daytime hours on short wave radio for the many women staying at home; the further advertising of the Scripture apps to increase the downloads. These apps can then be shared phone-to-phone later. We prayed for J in particular as he works on developing a memory stick from existing materials for the two principle languages.

We prayed for the team in Canada that they would have wisdom in dealing with the many callers from the country, many of whom are desperate. We were encouraged by some of the quotes from letters received by the team.

We prayed for R as she is speaking at a "Wonder Women's Conference" at their church in Canada this Saturday.

### **R and S in the Far East**

We praised God for an improvement in R's health

We also gave praise for the settlement of a long term issue with the Tax Bureau, which has now brought relief to R and S.

We prayed about the frustration of living with a "clearing to zero" approach to Covid where any infection (in the latest case, seven persons) results in draconian measures.

We prayed for R's energy as she may have to work Saturdays at the University to make up for an extra holiday granted for the New Year celebrations. R and S like to keep Saturdays for inviting guests and would be particularly disappointed if this happened.

We prayed for Josiah and particularly for his protection from Covid, and that he would not need to go to hospital on his own. Children aged 3 – 11 are now being vaccinated.

We prayed for S in his role as parent representative at Josiah's school: some teachers are cruel and insensitive to the less able children.

### **Andrew and Caroline in YWAM. Oregon, USA**

We prayed for the family: Andrew with his heavy responsibility in designing and running courses for young people who feel called to serving the Lord overseas; for Caroline in her role in the member care of YWAM-ers already overseas; and for their children – that they will be well, and grow in faith as they get older.

### **Julia in South Africa**

We gave thanks for the success of Julia's work with children with disabilities as the Khaya Cheshire Centre, and for the love the Lord has given her for the children, who are making good progress.

We also gave thanks for the encouragement Julia has from her church which seems to be experiencing a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit.

We prayed for the future of the Khaya centre, with uncertainty about its future location (only one year left on the current lease).

Although Covid infections are now minimal in South Africa, there is a lot of violent crime. We prayed for Julia's physical health and for freedom from fear.

### **Ventzi and Jenya and the church in Aksakavo, Bulgaria**

We gave thanks for the lovely new home Ventzi and Jenya now have (which we were able to see in a video played during the morning service).

We prayed for wisdom in how their home is used, and how their former home in the church building is used.

We gave thanks for Ventzi's report that 'God works in the church and we see new people every Sunday who come with great spiritual hunger'.

The 'Surprise the Pastor' part of the services has proved to be a real success, enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Against the backdrop of increasing cases of Covid, and deaths in Bulgaria, the idea of sharing hospitality has had to be put on hold. We prayed for wisdom for Ventzi with the prospect of a lockdown being enforced. Meanwhile the church continues to gather for worship.

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

We gave thanks for answered prayer: Ben and Emma's house was vacated by tenants and they have now been able to move back in. They both have work, Ben with a construction company, and Emma with Interserve. Her current role is to help update the 'Friendship First' course which coaches people in building bridges with those of other faiths. She is also working part-time as a receptionist in the office of the church they belong to.

The three children are settled in local schools and have made friends. They all enjoyed visiting Leicester to appreciate the cultural diversity of our country and were pleased to meet two Arabic-speaking ladies at a nearby international food store with whom they hope to keep in touch.

We prayed for the Community School they served in the Middle East, and for their Pastor there who has Covid.

We prayed about the process of 'finding new rhythms' for each member of the family: Emma writes – the 'doing' bits of life here are getting a bit easier, the 'being' bit – finding identity – takes longer.