

MISSION PARTNER NEWS – October 2020

with suggested days of the week for prayer

Cross Cultural Ministry

Monday: R & L & family in the Middle East with People International (PI)

- We are thankful for the internet and all the opportunities the Lord is giving us to teach Central Asians. Please pray for good internet connections for all our online Bible studies and that the Lord would use these times to grow our Central Asian friends in their love of Jesus and the Bible.
- There are many pastoral issues in our church - one couple getting married in October, some marriages are struggling, 5 women are pregnant, and another couple have told us that they want to get divorced. Please pray for wisdom in all our interactions with these precious brothers and sisters.
- We continue to be involved with sending in money to help with relief to believers in 2 Central Asian countries and working on a project to help some people start up small businesses. Please pray for wisdom.
- Many are struggling with flu in Central Asia, which may or may not be Covid. Pray for the Lord's mercy.

Monday: Rachel Olney in Vienna with OM

- Pray for Rachel to build good relationships with German language students as the Music Uni semester starts up this month, and in planning outreach events with music in crazy Covid-19 times!
- Praise God for Gabriel's baptism last month and his passion for evangelism - pray for this Brazilian music student in his personal discipleship and as he leads the Music Uni Bible study group.

Tuesday: Andy & Zsofi Oatridge, David, Reka & Emily in Hungary with Acorn Camps

- Praise God that the new CORE Training course had a great start with a 24 hour away event and their first Bible workshop. The students, who are all youth leaders, are beginning to form into a great group who can work well together as we study Philippians. Also, for the youth group able to meet in person, even if we all need to wear masks, and for the new teenagers joining us.
- Pray for the CORE Training course (6th & 20th), and for wisdom and flexibility as we set up next Summer's camps not knowing if they'll happen or not.

Tuesday: Marcus & Jen Watkins back in UK whilst Juniper Tree missionary retreat centre, Dolphin Bay, Thailand (JTDB) is closed temporarily

- Pray for Marcus & Jen's accommodation plans whilst back here in the UK, and for productive use of their time in addition to continuing from afar with JTDB admin and finance.
- Pray for Mark overseeing JTDB in situ; for the Thai government in preventing the spread of the virus and supporting the economy; and that more Thai people look to Jesus as the one true hope!

Wednesday: Training for Cross Cultural Ministry: Julian & Beth Baalbergen (at Cronulla Church, Sydney); Neil & Lucy Rogers (temporarily based in Durham); Sophie Ashelford (George Whitefield College, Cape Town)

- **Julian and Beth:** Give thanks for a way forward towards ministry in France in 2021, and continued opportunities with French language and French people here in Sydney. Praise God for our Church hubs (maximum 20 people permitted to meet together) and the opportunity to build deeper friendships.
- **Neil & Lucy:** are praising God for Josh and Jo's new baby daughter Lydia and continue to plan for Bishkek in late December - obstacles are: international flights, COVID regulations, awaiting driving licences, medical insurance, how to pastor a congregation that cannot congregate, an assembly that can't assemble?!
- **Sophie:** Praise God for open borders at last and pray that I'd be able to fly home for the Dec/Jan break. Pray for energy and discipline as I'm struggling to focus on work in my weariness; and for my role as International student rep that I'd plan well and be prayerful and servant-hearted towards other students.

Thursday: Youth & Children's Ministry:

The Oakes - Dan & Billie Thaw, Tom & Mez Clayton, Rob & Fiona Marsden, Ciara Long, Heidi Beatson, Meg Shannon, Joel Hutton, Nat German. Plus Jaz Heron, George Thaw and Ben Pereira (trainees/gap team)

Yorkshire Camps – Kez Wroe

- As the new Impact (Gap) Team arrive at The Oakes (10th) pray for them to settle in well together; and for the whole team as they work on improving the facilities and programme whilst camps aren't happening.
- Give thanks for a good start for the new Yorkshire Camps training team at Netherside Hall and pray that the Day Camps, starting this month, will work safely so that young people enjoy them and hear the gospel.

Friday: International Student Ministry - Stuart (OMF), Caleb Chen & Peter Longbottom (Friends International), Mengyuan Yue (Reach Programme 2020-2021, Edinburgh)

- Pray for the events welcoming new international students to Sheffield, running until 24th Oct; and for the weekly online Zoom meetings starting on 19th which will be hard to maintain.
- Mengyuan gives thank for her orientation, accommodation and 'the best housemate I can ask for'. She adds: 'What is very cheerful in this month is that I have already gotten in touch with 3 Chinese girls who will study in Edinburgh. Hopefully we can meet up in person soon, befriend and share the Christian faith together. One of these girls called Y is keen to this kind of events and longs to know more people here. We keep in touch via WeChat and will meet up in person when she gets here'.

Saturday: **Student Ministry (UCCF) - Sophie Tresidder (Birmingham); Peter Johnson (Newcastle); Anja Lijcklama à Nijeholt (Cambridge)**

- **Sophie & Pete:** with their cities under further restrictions praise God for the evangelistic energy and creativity of Christians in the Unis as they welcomed new students – pray for the new ‘Impact’ groups for believers, and ‘Explore’ for those with questions about faith in Jesus. Pray too for internationals – in Birmingham 70 signed up for the CU English group chat within minutes of a Uni online welcome!
- **Anja:** Pray for creativity in getting to know new postgrad students in Cambridge amidst the various restrictions; and for preparations for a November online conference to equip European university lecturers to give evangelistic talks – that there’d be more evangelistic speakers in Europe as a result.

Sunday: **Others - Alan Butler (WorldShare); Jonathan Norgate (2:19); Maisie Crossley (Edinburgh City Mission); Jonny Wilkinson (Samaritans Purse, Ethiopia); Dan Houghton (YWAM - Australia); Galeed House (Darnall)**

- **Alan** writes: Give thanks for a fantastic response to our recent hunger appeal and a really positive board meeting as we shape Worldshare to effectively respond to Covid-19. Pray for Alan juggling various responsibilities and leading Worldshare in these challenging times.
- **Jonathan** says: Give thanks for the gifts received and progress made on the new books for use by churches doing outreach in their communities – 2 books are being prepared for printing this month! Pray as we prepare to make our resources more suitable for online teaching, and as we support churches connecting with non-native English speakers in their communities, many of whom are particularly vulnerable during the Covid crisis.
- **Maisie** is giving huge thanks to God for early blessings which have made the move to Edinburgh easier; friendships, scenery, good sleep, support (prayer and financial) from Sheffield people. ‘In my first week here I have seen so much new stuff and met so many new people and have found it pretty overwhelming’.
- Pray for **Jonny** hoping to fly to Addis Ababa later in the autumn to work on a project providing health and shelter support for those displaced by conflict; and for energy for Dan in a Bible School near Brisbane.