

PRAYERLINES

JUNE – JULY 2021



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The call in action

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JUNE 2021

T 1 JUNE // TANZANIA

“Praise God for our new team of five deaf carpenters: Godson, Rickson, Michael, Ahmeed and Justin. These new recruits will be responsible for our venture into lower cost eucalyptus furniture,” write Ben and Katy Ray, who provide training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities at the Neema Crafts Centre. Please pray these new staff will learn quickly and be blessed with work for now and the future.

W 2 JUNE // UGANDA

David and Heather Sharland are retiring to Northern Ireland after many years in mission. Pray for them as they adjust to life in another culture and for God to continue to lead them to new and exciting things in this stage.

Th 3 JUNE // SOUTH AFRICA

Based at George Whitefield College, Caroline and Dick Seed are training Bible teachers across Africa and beyond. In January, they ran a course for clergy in Chile, Peru, Argentina and Brazil. Pray for the participants as they implement what they have learned in the classroom.

F 4 JUNE // UGANDA

Mission partner Malcolm Pritchard, promoting spiritual development and a faithful understanding of the gospel in college life at Archbishop Janani Luwum Theological College in Gulu, northern Uganda, is thankful that students have been able to return to college. Please pray for their spiritual formation alongside their academic training.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 5–6 June

OPEN TO ENCOUNTER

By Ian Adams, mission spirituality adviser for Church Mission Society

This weekend focus links to the article From the Garden (page 26).

In John’s telling of the story, Mary Magdalene is at first unaware of who she is speaking with in the garden of resurrection. It is only as she hears her name, spoken in love, that she realises she is encountering the risen Jesus.

As you enter prayer today, create space for possible encounter with the Christ. This, of course, cannot be forced. But we can make ourselves available – even through our tears.

Risen Jesus,
I commit myself today to being open to your quiet presence.
In your grace, through any tears, may I sense you close to me,

and even hear my name,
spoken in love.
Amen

Email: ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org

M 7 JUNE // MIDDLE EAST

Local partner Medhat shares the gospel and leads people to Jesus alongside supporting a region-wide network of others doing the same. Pray for people to be drawn to Medhat and his team’s new Facebook page designed to connect the team with people experiencing visions and dreams of Jesus.

T 8 JUNE // EGYPT

Joe and Sarah are sharing the gospel through teaching English and training teachers in a local school run by the Church. Pray for Sarah as she takes on a pastoral responsibility for both future students and staff at the nursing school where she works, including overseeing the weekly Bible studies.

W 9 JUNE // NORTH AFRICA

Pandemic restrictions have encouraged mission partners M and H to spend more time with people locally, sitting outside with local women (H) and getting to know the men on their street (M). Please pray for more opportunities to share and be good news as these relationships deepen and language develops.

Th 10 JUNE // UKRAINE

Local partner Anya Manchuliak is leading the worship ministry at the Tabernacle of the Living God church in Kiev. Pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance and inspiration as Anya works with the church’s 30-strong worship team to develop the worship ministry and lead the church in bringing glory to God through music.

F 11 JUNE // MIDDLE EAST

Please pray for mission partner Ultan in his work on behalf of persecuted Christians in partnership with Middle East Concern. Pray for new relationships to be established, for existing relationships to be strengthened and for God’s will to be done through faithful, collaborative efforts.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 12–13 June

THE POWER OF PRAYER

By local partner H, based in Spain and serving the region of North Africa by providing training and enabling young people to reach their nations with the gospel.

Something I’ve been challenged about recently is the power of prayer and I have been reflecting on New Testament principles that show us to pray with persistence and authority in the name

of Jesus. I have been leading times of intercession for our team, sharing my heart for prayer and praying bold prayers for the nations of North Africa.

Recently I have experienced remarkable supernatural answers to prayer.

One of the ways I support my teammates is with their residency renewal process here in Spain, especially lately, as pandemic restrictions and procedures have further complicated the process and applications have got lost in the system. I do what I can humanly speaking and then I pray.

Lately I've found my prayers have been answered exceptionally fast. Often, an email I send elicits an immediate, favourable response. A document needed arrives the very next day.

We hear of many believers who are sick but prayers for healing have also had results. Recently, a team member shared a prayer need for a pastor's wife who was having breathing difficulties. No sooner had we prayed than a message arrived on my friend's phone. The pastor was writing to say that his wife was feeling much better.

Pray for H and his family and those he is walking alongside, for them to grow together in love for God and obedience to his word.

M 14 JUNE // GUATEMALA

Please pray for wisdom for mission partners Mark and Rosalie Balfour as they use their home Betania to offer hospitality and time out with Jesus for Street Kids Direct workers in Central America. Pray for safety as Mark and Rosalie travel to

different projects.

T 15 JUNE // BRAZIL

Daniel and Sarah Brito Medeiros, working with girls who have suffered abuse, write that Sarah has recently started dance therapy/ministry sessions with a girl who has been self-harming. As this girl encounters God through dance and through the staff at ReVive, pray for God's transformation in her life.

W 16 JUNE // CHILE

Local partner Christian Donoso, making disciples and planting churches in Concepcion, writes that they currently have 30 adults meeting to hear the word of God, pray and praise God together. Pray for this church plant to flourish and draw in new people who are wanting to meet with God.

Th 17 JUNE // PARAGUAY

Mission partner Tim Curtis is working with church leaders in the Chaco region, developing study materials and promoting use of the Scriptures. Give thanks that Tim has been able to continue to work with Northern Enlhet Bible translators in Filadelfia. Pray for safety in travel, especially on the Trans-Chaco Highway.

F 18 JUNE // BRAZIL

Pray for mission partners Jimmy and Katia

Rocks running a New Wine Discipleship School programme from March to July as part of their ministry through Vineyard Floripa in Florianopolis. Pray for them as they teach on a wide range of topics, aiming to train and equip students to serve Jesus as lifelong disciples.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 19–20 June

A GARMENT OF PRAISE

By Anna Sims, who builds relationships, prays and reads the Bible with English-speaking female prison inmates through Walking in Liberty in Lima, Peru.

I can safely say that never before has frying bacon made me cry. I've found this past year particularly challenging and feel worn down, exhausted and my spirit feels faint, and there I was in my kitchen, crying, because of the bacon.

Laura had recently completed her sentence for trying to carry cocaine out of Peru in 2014. She was a regular at the Bible study and we got to know her better as we chatted, ate the food we had taken in for the Bible study group and prayed and studied the Bible.

Bacon is expensive in Peru, but it was an easy food to take to the women inside occasionally. Now, I was making Laura one last bacon sandwich to eat in the overpriced and mainly shut airport.

As I read Isaiah 61 at the beginning of March, the promise to give "a garment of praise instead of a faint spirit" (61:3b)

jumped out at me. As I reflect on my journey with Laura over the last five years, I can't help but give praise to our amazing God, for all his deeds seen and unseen in her life. Our almighty God specialises in transforming the broken lives of people and using his children, regardless of how faint-spirited they feel, to be Jesus' hands and feet, demonstrating his love with acts that are sometimes as simple as making someone a bacon butty.

Praise God for his work in Laura's life and pray for Anna's work to reach more women like Laura and set them on a path with God.

M 21 JUNE // FROME

Elizabeth Alden, a first year CMS MA student, and her husband Andrew are starting out as pioneer ministers among young adults in their community. As they begin, please pray for connections with young adults who will welcome the words of Jesus and follow him.

T 22 JUNE // CORNWALL

Festo and Grace Kanungha, seeking to establish new worshipping communities of children and young people in Liskeard, ask for prayer as the family continues to await a decision on Festo's UK visa application. Pray for the youth and families ministry as they re-establish post lockdown.

W 23 JUNE // OXFORD

Partnership for Missional Church (PMC)

is a programme used by CMS to help churches join in with what God is already doing in their community. Pray for Nigel Rooms, PMC leader, and Nick Ladd, PMC consultant for Bath and Wells, as they meet with international researchers today to discuss the theme of missional discipleship.

Th 24 JUNE // LINCOLN

Lay minister and pioneer Kate Mitchell is studying for an MA to learn how to help people connect with God differently, for instance through nature or exercise. As Lincoln diocese looks for new ways of walking with people, pray for everyone to see this as a time of excitement and flourishing.

F 25 JUNE // PLYMOUTH

“The work club has faced major challenges during the last year,” writes mission partner Ruth Sayers, a church worker helping unemployed people get back into work. Formerly running as a drop-in centre, the work club has been very limited recently. As they plan to reopen, pray for a suitable venue and more volunteers.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 26–27 June

LAMENTING TO THE GOD WHO CAN CHANGE HEARTS

By Dave Bookless, based in the UK, director of theology for global Christian environmental organisation A Rocha International.

Last summer, in the first lockdown, we suggested God was saying:

We are not in control.
Our way of life has to change
if we are to live.
This is a sign of things to come.

That still holds. Chaos and uncertainty are the new normal for the 21st century, whether through more pandemics, abrupt climatic change, rapidly rising extinctions, food insecurity, economic turmoil or the resulting social and political fallout.

In that context, we’re learning about lament, waiting and trust. The Psalms frequently include cries of lament. Lament is the cry of those who are part of the problem to an almighty, all-loving God who alone can change hearts. It is a desperate groaning about problems we cannot solve. Romans 8 speaks of a triple groaning: all creation groans “as in the pains of childbirth” (v.22); we, as believers, “groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption” (v.23); God’s Holy Spirit “intercedes for us through wordless groans” (v.26). The Greek root word “stenazo” encompasses the feeling of being constricted and pushed forward

as in a baby’s birth, with extreme distress or pleasure. Today we experience pain and longing but, as the pain becomes more intense, so the hope of future joy is ever closer.

Pray for Christians everywhere to lean in to God in their lament and for our pain and groaning to lead to joy.

M 28 JUNE // MIDDLE EAST

“Please pray for the church and believers here, that through this time they will know the presence of God and the leading of his Holy Spirit to grow and flourish,” writes R, a mission partner involved in various ministries in a family of four churches.

T 29 JUNE // JORDAN

Mission partners Fiona and Joel Kelling have been staying with family since early December, working to support and strengthen the diverse Christian communities of the Middle East from the UK. Pray for them as they plan to return to Jordan in time for the beginning of the school year in September.

30 JUNE // SPAIN/N AFRICA

During the pandemic, a mission partner couple in Spain have been involved with their local food bank, helping over 100 families to make it through this very difficult time. Pray for new connections made through this work to bear fruit as they build relationships and share the gospel with people.

JULY 2021

Th 1 JULY // EGYPT AND SUDAN

Local partner and evangelist Habeeb Kamal has not been able to travel internationally during the pandemic and has instead been discipling believers locally and connecting with churches online to preach the word of God. Praise God for the way he has been using Habeeb differently during this time.

F 2 JULY // LEBANON

Currently on home leave, mission partners Phil and Sylvie Good are considering their next steps. Pray for continued growth where they have sown seeds through building relationships with people and their work with a new school building for refugee children which opened towards the end of last year.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 3–4 July

PEACE THAT WON'T LIE DOWN

By Phil and Sylvie Good, working alongside churches in Beirut supporting refugees.

Jesus is the Prince of Peace and he does not lie down and rest while there is

injustice destroying the peace he died for. His death bought peace and justice with God, and he is bringing peace and justice to people suffering violence. He will not lie down until peace and justice rule the whole earth.

We pray for peace
Peace where the pain hurts most
Peace for the obvious external violence
And peace for the hidden internal violence
Healing for the hurt caused by all violence
A healing of the scars in the bodies
And a healing for the scars in the souls
Peace without end
Peace that understands
Peace that has nails in hands and feet
Peace with a hole in the side feeling pain
Peace that is greater than hate and war
Peace that is bigger than my fears
Peace that does not give up
Peace that brings justice
Peace that won't lie down

Welcome today the Prince of Peace. He is very close and he won't lie down and he won't give up.

Pray for people in Beirut to be able to engage with God's peace even if their circumstances are not peaceful.

M 5 JULY // ASIA-WIDE

Asia needs people in mission. Please pray that God will continue to call people to mission in one of the least evangelised regions in the world. Pray that people will have ears to hear God's call and respond with openness and obedience.

T 6 JULY // SOUTH ASIA

Please pray for local partner S as he plans to expand his talk show about the struggles faced by first generation Christians into another language to reach more people. Pray for S as he seeks a second production/post production team, guests and all that is needed.

W 7 JULY // ASIA-WIDE

Please pray for Hwei Mian, an experienced policy writer, and Esther, Asia-CMS's new safeguarding manager as they develop, contextualise and implement safeguarding policy and training with staff across more than eight countries in Asia. Pray that the safeguarding framework they develop can also benefit other Christian organisations and churches across the region.

Th 8 JULY // NEPAL

Andrea and Andrew Young have continued their role of providing pastoral care to United Mission to Nepal workers from the UK during the pandemic using Zoom. Pray that the new UMN staff support programme, where staff uphold each other, will be well received and help overcome mental health stigma.

F 9 JULY // SOUTH ASIA

"Please pray for each child's home circumstances," write mission partners B and K, who have been tutoring several

extra children in their home during the pandemic alongside working to prevent human trafficking. Pray for these children to experience God's love through B and K.

WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 10–11 July

STEPPING FORWARD IN BATTLE

By B and K, who are working to prevent human trafficking and encouraging the church in South Asia to take action.

Psalm 18 reminds us to call upon the Lord, for he is worthy to be praised. He has given us the shield of his salvation. Our God is holy, just and able! We can have full confidence in him.

As a teenager new in faith, I (K) remember reading Psalms like these and not relating to them, thinking I didn't really have any enemies. At the time, someone said they looked at such passages in the Psalms in the light of spiritual enemies. That made a lot more sense.

Now, years later and working in anti-trafficking, seeing the plight of persecuted Christians and the abuse suffered by many, the idea of an "enemy" is no longer a difficult concept to relate to. We cry out on behalf of many who daily experience the strong enemy (v.17), both physical and spiritual, and for those who do not know who to cry out to. We pray that they will experience the Lord as their support, that they will be brought into a broad place and that they will know the

Lord delights in them (v.18–19). Psalm 18:19 reminds us that we have been armed with strength for the battle. Let us go forward in that strength, even if we don't always feel it.

Pray for B and K as they step forward in the battle against human trafficking, even when they don't feel strong.

M 12 JULY // UGANDA

Mission partner Helen Kisakye is a dance advocate, helping to change attitudes towards people with disabilities and teach children about their rights through dance. Pray for Helen and the team as they begin activities for year two of their children's rights project and for the 40 children involved in the project.

T 13 JULY // MADAGASCAR

Pray for local partner Florent Lahitody, who coordinates discipleship programmes in the Diocese of Toliara and oversees a rural parish. Pray for God to keep using him to spread the gospel of Jesus and disciple believers to follow Jesus closely.

W 14 JULY // TANZANIA

New mission partners in training Christine and David Torrance are planning to settle in Kondoa, where they will join in with local ministry and discipleship and David will teach at Kondoa Bible College. Pray for them as they prepare to start training with CMS and make connections for support.



Th 15 JULY // SOUTH SUDAN

Lynn Treneary teaches English at Chaima Christian Institute in Maridi and works with evangelist teams and the Mothers' Union. Pray for Chaima Christian Institute, which reopened with reduced classes in March. Pray for students and teachers as they get back into rhythms and routines of education.



F 16 JULY // UGANDA

Mission partners Tom and Verity Clare are new diocesan health coordinator and homeschooling teacher respectively. Pray for them and their four sons in a time of transition as Tom takes on this role and long term mission partners in their area retire – pray for wisdom and good relationships.



WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 17–18 July

A STORY OF REDEMPTION



By Heather Johnstone, who leads the Rehema Project in Mara diocese, which seeks to empower disadvantaged women and children in the area.

It was 7pm, dark and chilly for September. As Mary (not her real name) and I locked up the Rehema workshop she looked at me with tears in her eyes and said, “Promise me you will return to

Tanzania.” It was the evening before my departure for home leave. I replied, “Don’t worry, six months will fly by.”

Almost 18 months later I still have not been able to return to lovely Mary, the project and people I love so much.

Mary inspires me for many reasons, but especially because every Monday (her day off) she spends several hours at the AIDS clinic in Musoma. She feels called by God to educate and guide young women recently diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.

Mary left school after her primary education and was married into a very difficult situation as a teenager. After being raped repeatedly, Mary had a daughter and ran away. Later, she married a man she loved and had two more children, but he beat and cheated on Mary, and infected her with HIV.

She ran away again, preferring to fend for herself and her children and avoid the cheating and abuse. Mary is entrepreneurial and managed to provide for herself and her family better than her husband had.

Today, Mary is a God-fearing Christian woman. Kind-hearted, dependable and a natural leader. She could try her hand at anything and probably succeed.

Praise God for the wonderful things he has done in Mary’s life and pray for more stories like this.



M 19 JULY // OXFORD

A curate in the Church of England, pioneer Joanna Allen is passionate about seeing God’s church alive in the Spirit and alert to his missional call. Pray for Joanna as she spends time with people

beyond churches and strives to see God’s Kingdom grow in the forgotten places.



T 20 JULY // CORNWALL

Pioneer ordinand Benjamin Hudd and his family are committed to being friends to their community in Stithians, loving their neighbours and simply being themselves. Having started a new spiritual community on Zoom, please pray for wisdom for how to proceed as face-to-face gatherings begin.



W 21 JULY // OXFORD

Pioneer Jonathan Hutchison and his wife Tara are part of the international leadership team at Watoto Child Care Ministries, a ministry that brings hope and healing to vulnerable women and children in Uganda and South Sudan. Pray for them as they settle into UK life with their three small children.



Th 22 JULY // GLOUCESTER

Pioneer ordinand Lucy Barbour and her team are committed to supporting their village community to live well in body, mind and spirit. Pray for Lucy and the team’s online courses and classes to help build relationships within the community, support people’s well-being and meet them where they are in their faith.



F 23 JULY // KINGSTON

Please pray for SpiritSpace, a growing online international event (see article overleaf). Mission partner Andrea Campanale asks for prayer that she and the team can continue to grow the network they are engaging with and that people will encounter Jesus and pursue a relationship with him.



WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 24–25 July

JOYFUL SHARING



By Ian Adams, mission spirituality adviser for Church Mission Society

This weekend focus links to the article From the Garden (page 26).

Mary Magdalene responds to Jesus’ instruction to go and to say what she has seen and heard. She goes to the disciples – as the first witness to the resurrection – and shares the joyful and astonishing story. *I have seen the Lord!*

In your prayers you might like to imagine the contexts in which you will be today. How might you share the joyful story of your own encounters with the risen Jesus? What words might you say, what actions might you take?

Risen Jesus,
Help me today to live and share with joy your resurrection life.
Enable me to find the words and the actions through which you may be encountered by those whom I will meet. Amen

Email: ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org



M 26 JULY // BRAZIL

Brazil has been hit hard by COVID-19, with hundreds of thousands of deaths and knock-on effects throughout society. Mission partners ask, "Please pray especially as extreme poverty is on the rise – for the church to know how to best respond."



T 27 JULY // BOLIVIA

Andrew and Lisa Peart, working to strengthen communities, see people flourish and further God's Kingdom in Santa Cruz, are thankful that CMS-Africa's Financial Freedom for Families course has now been translated into Spanish. Please pray for willing and able people to lead the course with them.



W 28 JULY // PERU

Pat Blanchard has recently returned to Lima and her work with over 100 children with disabilities and their families through Shalom Ministries. After an extended time in the UK, pray for Pat as she settles back in and listens to what God is telling her to do.



Th 29 JULY // HONDURAS

Pray for Steve Poulson and the team at Street Kids Direct as they look for the best way forward for young people they mentor who have missed a year of schooling. Pray for understanding,

committed teachers who can help young people get back into education.



F 30 JULY // ARGENTINA

Now Primate of the Anglican Church of South America, Nick Drayson and wife Catherine Le Tissier ask for prayer for good relationships among the bishops and their spouses as they work together and prepare for the Lambeth Conference next year.



WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday
31 July – 1 August

SEND US A PRAYER

We invite you to write to us with a prayer request and we will count it our privilege to pray for you: info@churchmissionsociety.or