

# PRAYERLINES

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2021






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*The call in action*

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# HOW GOOD AND PLEASANT...

Dear praying friends,

By the time you read this, a great thing will have happened. In July, for the first time since March 2020, all Church Mission Society UK staff were invited to meet together in person!

The setting was a lovely park in Oxford and the day consisted of prayer, worship, food, fun and of course, lots of chatting and catching up. Together, we thanked God for his presence and provision during the uncertainty and challenges of this past year.

After all this time apart, I felt like we were getting a taste of what the Psalmist was talking about when he wrote: "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

We do not have to be physically present with one another to demonstrate unity, as we know from our experience over the last year. Every day, though we may be far apart from one another, hundreds of people across the country (and world!) join together in a kind of global harmony to pray for the people and places highlighted in this prayer guide. How good and pleasant it is to be confident of this – thank you so much for your faithful, prayerful support of God's mission and CMS.

Yours in Christ,



Alastair Bateman  
Chief Executive Officer

## AUGUST 2021

### 2 AUGUST (M) BATH

This year, Katy Partridge completed the CMS MA in theology, ministry and mission and started a pioneer curacy in Bath at the end of June. Please pray for God to prepare the right people to be involved in pioneering mission in her new community, and for her to communicate the heart of her pioneer ministry clearly and humbly.

### 3 AUGUST (T) ROMFORD

"As we increasingly reconnect face-to-face with the families and children of our Sunday and mid-week communities in Collier Row, pray for us to be bold and creative in how we approach and develop the ministries that we are privileged to be involved in," asks Marcus Giddy, pioneer ordinand and first year CMS MA student. Please pray for Marcus and the teams he works with to have the courage to step out of their comfort zones and pursue what they have learned during the pandemic.

## WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 25–26  
September

### 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.org](mailto:info@churchmissionsociety.org)

### 27 SEPTEMBER (M) SOUTH ASIA

Mission partners E and R work in theological education and with Asia-CMS and the local church respectively. Their church and wider network includes many who are ill or bereaved, and their church has been preaching on the fruit of the Spirit recently. They write, "Pray that God will make us a community who overflow with the fruit of the Spirit – in the midst of so many people who desperately need to encounter God."

### 28 SEPTEMBER (T) SOUTH EAST ASIA

Pray for B and M and their children as they are unable to return to the country where they were serving in education and church ministry. During this long interim period and uncertainty, please pray for discernment regarding their work, settling into a new country, the children's schooling, new friends and adapting to yet another change.

### 29 SEPTEMBER (W) PHILIPPINES

Mission partners Kate and Tim Lee (now back in the UK) report that during the pandemic, Jigsaw Ministries built many strong, significant relationships with women across the 10 urban communities where it works to improve the lives of children and families living in poverty in Manila. As a result, each community has started a Bible group for women, and over 100 women are now engaging with the Bible each week. Pray that as the women read, discuss the Scriptures and pray, the Holy Spirit will come into their lives and they will know Jesus.

### 30 SEPTEMBER (TH) SRI LANKA

Russell de Alwis is church relations and training coordinator at LEADS, a charity which works with abused and traumatised children. Russell asks for prayer for wisdom and strength in his work of raising awareness around trauma and abuse through speaking to groups of parents and young children.

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## 20 SEPTEMBER (M) SOUTHALL

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As they engage in creation care in West London, Kailean and Kim Khongsai are working closely with local churches to create a labyrinth as part of the Wolf Fields land transformation project. Pray for Kailean and Kim and local churches to together create a labyrinth that will encourage visitors on their spiritual journeys by offering a space where people can worship God in his creation and be inspired by it.

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## 21 SEPTEMBER (T) CORNWALL

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Festo and Grace Kanungha are finally reunited after a long wait for Festo's UK visa, and can now work together to establish new worshipping communities of children and young people in Liskeard. Last November, Grace started a new weekly Family Gathering, a fun place where families can worship and enjoy a meal together. Please pray that this new worshipping community will be accessible to those on the fringes as well as the church community and for it to be a place of Kingdom growth.

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## 22 SEPTEMBER (W) ACROSS THE UK

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Pray for God to use the Partnership for Missional Church (PMC) to help churches explore what God might be doing in their communities. Pray for churches to

be willing and ready to explore how God might want to use them to bring healing and new life.

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## 23 SEPTEMBER (TH) BIRMINGHAM

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Please pray for continued energy, stamina and safety for those working in healthcare. "Please do pray for safety over this time," writes Ruth Radley, supporting children and families as part of the multi-faith chaplaincy team at Birmingham Children's Hospital.

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## 24 SEPTEMBER (F) HULL

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Anna and Chris Hembury are sharing life with people on the margins, including women whose circumstances have reduced them to survival sex work on the street. These women are living in the reality of everything that is systemically broken and no one is listening to their cries. Anna has been building relationships with some of these women, and together they have been able to amplify their voices and effect change. Anna writes, "Please pray with us: May your Kingdom come, where the lowly are lifted high and injustices righted."

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## 4 AUGUST (W) FROME

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Pioneer Bryce Tangvald is a youth leader at Holy Trinity Church, Frome, and works with Frome Area Christians Together (FACT) going into local schools, mentoring and leading Christian Unions. The local mission group Bryce is involved with is exploring a completely new vision for connecting with the community. Pray for the group to recognise where God is leading and to see where God is preparing the way for the group to join him in his mission.

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## 5 AUGUST (TH) NORTHOLT

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CMS pioneer student Chris Hill, rector of St Mary with St Richard, asks for prayer for himself and the team in Northolt as he prepares to move on from his role. Pray for his team and the church community as they navigate this next stage, and for Chris and his family as they get ready to move to Winchester diocese, where Chris will be starting a new role as mission trainer.

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## 6 AUGUST (F) BRISTOL

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Pioneer student Jenny Bourne coordinates The Ark Bus, a ministry that shares God's love in practical ways in the community. Jenny asks: "Please pray for the Ark team as they venture out. Pray for God to strengthen and equip them and give them all that they need to break new ground."

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# WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 7–8 August

## COME HOLY SPIRIT: A QUESTION

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BY IAN ADAMS,  
MISSION SPIRITUALITY ADVISER

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**This weekend focus asks what it might be like to pray again with the simple but profound prayer, Come Holy Spirit.**

We cannot summon God's Holy Spirit. So, to pray this prayer is first of all to commit ourselves to be present. The utterance is, in that sense, a question addressed to us as we pray it. Are we truly here in this moment, open to the possibility of encounter with God?

Gracious God  
help me to be truly present to you  
today;  
and so may I pray with humility,  
in Jesus' name,  
Come Holy Spirit!

Email: [ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org](mailto:ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org)

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## 9 AUGUST (M) ARGENTINA

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Local partner and church youth leader Gaston Perez is involved in one-to-one discipleship within his church and in discussion groups where people from outside the church can explore the Christian faith in a friendly environment. Pray for people to be open to the gospel

and how God wants to move in their lives.

## 10 AUGUST (T) GUATEMALA

“Please pray for the new programme of discipleship and mission training for young adults in Guatemala that I have been helping to develop and start these past few months,” writes Azaria Spencer, who works with street children and young people at risk through Street Kids Direct. Pray for God’s guidance and provision in terms of volunteers, young adults and resources.

## 11 AUGUST (W) BRAZIL

Local partner Amanda Borges leads the church youth work and youth outreach at Vineyard Floripa and coordinates the church’s discipleship school, which aims to train and equip young people in mission. She asks for prayer for the school to be a blessing to teachers, students and staff as they work together for God.

## 12 AUGUST (TH) PERU

Mission development manager Paul Tester is working with indigenous peoples and strategic partners in Latin America to explore how to best serve in mission together. Please pray for a clear sense of God’s leading and for the development of plans for the future together. Paul and Sarah’s three daughters have been in online school for over a year, so please also pray for them, their continued

learning and for Sarah as she helps them learn.

## 13 AUGUST (F) BRAZIL

Please pray for ReVive’s safe houses for children at risk; for wisdom, patience and guidance for staff, for healing and a way into a forever home for each of the children. Following over a year spent in the UK due to the pandemic, pray for short-termers Rosie and Stu Bayford to be able to resume their work with the ReVive children and have a positive impact on the children’s lives.

# WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 14–15 August

## BY HOOK OR BY CROOK

**BY CHRISTOPHER AND MICHELLE HAYS, MISSION ASSOCIATES WORKING IN THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION IN COLOMBIA, WITH CHILDREN JUDAH, ASHER AND ZOE**

**By hook or by crook. By the skin of your teeth. Catch as catch can. These sorts of sayings have been running through my head recently, as my colleagues and I have, time and again, found ways to move forward with our work, in spite of new and tragic obstacles.**

Many of you will know that Colombia has been engulfed in civil protests this year [initially against a proposed tax reform]. Huge marches have criss-

## 15 SEPTEMBER (W) DR CONGO

Jeff Sikabwe, a local partner involved in various types of training along with mentoring and advocacy, asks for prayer for the people in the east of the country, who were greatly affected by the eruption of Mount Nyiragongo in May of this year. Pray for the many thousands who have lost homes, family members and livelihoods.

## 16 SEPTEMBER (TH) TANZANIA

Praise God for Stephen Hatch’s impact on teachers as well as students at St John’s Seminary in Kilimatinde, where he works as a maths teacher and head of the science department in the secondary school. Staff members have tended to focus on each new class doing better than the last, but this year they have started using a different approach, looking at pupils’ individual progress and seeing the results of their effort invested in specific young people. Pray for more positive steps like this which benefit teachers and students alike.

## 17 SEPTEMBER (F) DR CONGO

Mission partners Patricia and Peter Wyard are based in Aru diocese, where Patricia, a palliative care doctor, teaches and supports local medical staff. Peter teaches students preparing for ministry and offers training, and has recently been building a team and developing the Rooted in Jesus discipleship course for the local context. Pray for people to catch the vision for the course and for

it to become properly embedded over the next few months.

# WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 18–19 September

## COME HOLY SPIRIT: A SURRENDER

**BY IAN ADAMS, MISSION SPIRITUALITY ADVISER**

**This weekend focus continues to ask what it might be like to pray again with the simple but profound prayer, Come Holy Spirit.**

To pray this prayer is to surrender. This is challenging – we enjoy having a sense of being in control of our circumstances. But to pray this prayer is to allow the Holy Spirit to flow in us, around us and through us. This may be a very quiet experience. It may be a Pentecost-style tempest. Either way, we cede control.

Gracious God,  
help me today to surrender control of my circumstances to you; flow in me, around me, and through me;  
and so may I pray with boldness, in Jesus’ name

Come Holy Spirit!

Email: [ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org](mailto:ian.adams@churchmissionsociety.org)

**have come face-to-face with over the last year and a half is ourselves: our priorities, intentions and motivation in mission and family life.**

We had only just started the journey into full-time mission when Bolivia found herself in the pit and mire of violence and civil unrest from a fraudulent election and an exiled ex-president screaming coup d'etat, all swiftly followed by a world pandemic. This wreaked havoc on life as we knew it; everything we imagined the Lord was calling us to had come to a screeching halt. Fellow missionaries within different organisations left the field. It was there in the isolation, faced with ourselves (and each other), a new journey began; a treasure hunt of sorts, within our hearts, seeking the Lord's heart for mission and Bolivia.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19–21

Between the four of us, we have many passions which bring us enjoyment. But what do we treasure, what motivates us? The Message version of Matthew 6 uses the word “hoard” for “store up”. A vivid reminder of the start of the pandemic, when my news feed filled with photos of English supermarket shelves empty where there was once pasta and toilet paper – something we did not see here in Bolivia. “Hoard” sounds like it's motivated by fear. “Storing up treasures in heaven” sounds

like it's motivated by love.

God is good. His love for us and for the world is what we treasure, shown through the life, death and resurrection of his son, Jesus. It is indeed what motivates us to join in his great work!

**Pray for** Andrew and Lisa as they continue to focus on what really matters; for them to store up treasures in heaven and encourage others to do the same.

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### 13 SEPTEMBER (M) TANZANIA

Earlier this year, mission partners Ben and Katy Ray wrote that while their residence permits have been granted, they have only been given one final year. Please pray for them as they seek to pass the management of the Neema Crafts Centre on to local people so that the centre can continue to provide training and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

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### 14 SEPTEMBER (T) UGANDA

Mission partner Nicci Maxwell and the rest of the staff team at Potter's Village medical centre are making a difference to the local community through their care for babies and children. They see miraculous recoveries as God blesses the work of their hands and does what only he can do. Pray for Nicci as Potter's Village struggles with staffing and supply issues – pray for God's miraculous intervention in every situation where this is needed.

crossed our major cities. While most protests are peaceful, many erupt in violence.

Amid all this, and the pandemic, we have to find ways to push forward, because the victims of forced displacement whom we seek to serve are still suffering, and because our seminarians still need to be trained.

Therefore, we have found ways to carry on. We threaded the needle between protests and lockdowns, and were able to hold faith and displacement diploma courses in Cartagena, Bogota and Medellin. The seminary switched back from virtual to hybrid education, allowing me to be physically back in front of my students. I published a new academic article and have been tapping away at other presentations and chapters. Nothing about this has been straightforward, but we are making progress. It calls to mind Luke 16:16, which (in easier times of my life) used to sound odd to me: “The good news of the Kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing their way into it.” By hook or by crook.

**Praise God** for the progress Christopher and Michelle have been able to make despite the roadblocks. Pray for God to continue to open up avenues for them to do what he is calling them to day by day.

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### 16 AUGUST (M) UGANDA

Neil and Sue Browning, surgeon at Moyo General Hospital (Neil) and lecturing at Kajo-Keji Christian College (Sue), write: “We would value prayer for Kajo-Keji Christian College as it hopes to relocate

back to its premises in South Sudan towards the end of the year. There needs to be ongoing peace in the area and safe travel across the Uganda–South Sudan border.”

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### 17 AUGUST (T) AFRICA-WIDE

Mission partner Ann-Marie Wilson, based in the UK, speaks up on behalf of young girls who can't speak up for themselves. Through the charity 28 Too Many, Ann-Marie fights to stop female genital mutilation (FGM) in the 28 countries in Africa and the diaspora where it is practised. Pray for people in positions of power to take notice of 28 Too Many's research, law reports and experience to help end the damage caused by FGM.

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### 18 AUGUST (W) SOUTH SUDAN

Lynn Treneary seeks to encourage and strengthen people in their faith through her role as an English teacher at Chaima Christian Institute. Lynn is involved with a new project to help women, including women at Chaima, start new or run existing businesses in a sustainable way or go back to school/college. Pray for this project's impact on the community as women take this opportunity and run with it.

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### 19 AUGUST (TH) RWANDA

Consultant anaesthetist Catriona and consultant general surgeon Stephen

Bennett plan to have returned by now to Scotland, leaving their work at Gahini Hospital in the capable hands of their Rwandan colleagues. Pray for Catriona and Stephen and their children as they settle back into life in Scotland, and for staff at Gahini Hospital as they seek to maintain a high standard of care.

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## 20 AUGUST (F) KENYA

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CMS local partner Rachel Karanja has a passion for holistic mission, bringing transformation to communities from the perspective of faith. In May this year, Rachel and the team at the Ark of Transformation encouraged the local community to plant trees, working towards the national goal of planting 1.8 billion trees and achieving 10 per cent forest cover. Pray for the local community as they work together – for environmental awareness to be raised, friendships to blossom and for avenues to open up for the gospel to be shared.

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## WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 21–22 August

### OUR TRUE IDENTITY

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**BY TOM AND VERITY CLARE, WHO ARE BASED IN ARUA, UGANDA, WHERE TOM IS DIOCESAN HEALTH COORDINATOR AND WHERE VERITY LOOKS AFTER THEIR FOUR SONS AND IS EXPLORING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE IN THE FREEDOM JESUS BRINGS**

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Having your circumstances altered makes you notice things you might have previously taken for granted and perhaps question the importance of other things in your life. Moving overseas has naturally made us think more carefully about what shapes our identity and which things are core to who we are.

Reading through Ephesians 1 recently, we've been reminded of the richness of the inheritance that we have received through Jesus and how our identity is found in him. This is something that can easily be forgotten in the day-to-day busyness of life. In a recent Bible study, we were discussing the importance of making time for God in our lives to continue to get to know him better – something we all desire but can often fail to prioritise.

We echo Paul's prayer to the Ephesians for you today – that even in the midst of changing circumstances that are out of your control, your faith will increase as you grow in your understanding of the richness of God's steadfast love for you: "I keep asking that the God of our Lord

licensed pastoral leader of St Andrew's Chapel and as chaplain of the Anglican school, St Andrew's College. Pray for Bev and the chaplaincy team as they work together and seek God's plan for the future spiritual life of the school.

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## 7 SEPTEMBER (T) CHILE

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Alf and Hilary Cooper praise God for the ongoing life and excitement at Trinity Parish Church, where Alf is rector. They also ask for prayer for the new constitutional assembly drafting a new constitution, particularly for the four elected evangelical representatives and for the future direction of Chile as a country.

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## 8 SEPTEMBER (W) BRAZIL

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Local partner Flavio Adair is rector of Agua Viva Anglican church, Olinda, and he writes that the church is growing in all areas. Since Flavio arrived 18 months ago prepared for great challenges, God has accomplished much more than Flavio says he could have imagined. Pray for God's continued blessing on Agua Viva's flourishing cell groups, active discipleship, growing men's and women's ministries and plans to plant new churches in surrounding areas.

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## 9 SEPTEMBER (TH) ECUADOR

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Mission partner Sharon Wilcox works with people with learning disabilities, teaching

life skills and promoting independence through the Orchid Project. Sharon asks for prayer for Ecuador to provide COVID vaccines as fairly and rapidly as possible, so that the Orchid Project and other groups can resume meeting in person.

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## 10 SEPTEMBER (F) BRAZIL

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"ReVive is going to thrive under local leadership," write Andy and Rose Roberts, as they have relocated to the UK for Andy to take up the role of international mission director for CMS in Oxford. "ReVive's work is growing precisely because we have people on the team who have caught the vision and the pioneering spirit that we have modelled." Pray for wisdom, confidence and guidance for the ReVive team as they work with abused, traumatised and at-risk children.

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## WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 11–12 September

### STORING UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

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**BY ANDREW AND LISA PEART WITH THEIR DAUGHTERS, WORKING TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES, SEE PEOPLE FLOURISH AND FURTHER GOD'S KINGDOM THROUGH HOSPITALITY AND RELATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN SANTA CRUZ, BOLIVIA**

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One of many things Andrew and I

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## WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 4–5  
September

### SILENCE, SOLITUDE AND LITTLE FOXES

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BY M AND T, WHO LIVE IN SPAIN  
AND WORK TO TRAIN AND SUPPORT  
PEOPLE LIVING MISSIONAL LIFESTYLES  
THROUGHOUT NORTH AFRICA

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Inspired to practise silence and solitude recently, I set off to climb a nearby mountain, enjoying the beauty, the wild ibex and mountain ponies as I climbed. Reaching the summit in the late afternoon, I prepared a spot to sleep behind a small windbreak of rocks, then settled to read.

The sun set into the cloud blanket below me, colour leaching out across this cloud-sea. It was a spectacle only possible from a great height. Solitude, wilderness beauty, wide open space to think, and a majestic mountain summit to myself: a priceless gift.

As I prepared to turn in, my torch hit upon a pair of green eyes. I walked closer and met a small fox. We stood just feet apart; I marvelled at the encounter.

That night, I was kept awake by this fox and several others. The next morning, I woke from my cold, interrupted night to a beautiful sunrise. Sheltering from the strong wind, I reflected in my journal. I recognised my desire, during solitude, for a significant encounter with God, an

“a-ha”-moment. Sometimes, however, solitude reminds us of the small part we play in a much bigger picture. I remembered the scripture, “the little foxes spoil the vineyard.” I thought of my poor sleep and the foxes that had spoiled my night. Revelation hit: the foxes were drawn by the smell of my food. The first fox I met had been eating crumbs of the couscous I had carelessly discarded after my evening meal. Those little foxes that spoiled my metaphorical vineyard – I had invited them through my own thoughtlessness. This was quite a thought. I pondered my everyday life and the foxes that spoil my day – careless words or a lack of compassion that exacerbates problems instead of bringing peace – these are consequences of my own actions, deliberate or not.

I had hoped for a dramatic mountaintop revelation about God. Instead, what I learned in solitude was more ordinary and grounded: that my own small thoughtless acts and habits can create space for the bigger annoyances and things that spoil. I have to guard my own vineyard.

**Pray for M and T** as they seek to create reflective spaces where others can have these moments and as they seek to strengthen Christians both online and in person.

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### 6 SEPTEMBER (M) PARAGUAY

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Mission partner Bev Richardson asks for prayer as the Anglican Church of Paraguay goes through a time of transition and renewal and for her role as

Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.” Ephesians 1:17–21

**Pray for Tom and Verity’s faith** to increase as they grow in their understanding of the richness of God’s love for them, even in the midst of changing circumstances that are out of their control.

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### 23 AUGUST (M) SOUTH ASIA

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Mission partner F writes, “Please pray for two theological seminaries in South Asia which are in the re-accreditation process with the Asia Theological Seminary (ATA). One is a residential seminary, which also runs modular programmes for part-time students, and the other is an extension seminary.” F is involved with both, and as the ATA has added extra requirements, there is much to do. This is on top of the regular teaching programme at both seminaries, which has continued despite COVID-19, using a mixture of online and in-person classes.

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### 24 AUGUST (T) SOUTH ASIA

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Local partner V, a qualified psychologist and counsellor, has set up a pregnancy helpline for women in crisis. Pray for women who need it to hear about the helpline and have the courage to phone. Pray for the Holy Spirit to speak to each woman who rings and for them to feel God’s love through the person who answers.

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### 25 AUGUST (W) THAILAND

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Mission partners Jason and Tracy Day – a personnel manager seconded to OMF (Jason) and housewife, mum and child protection officer (Tracy) – ask for prayer for Thailand as the country strives to vaccinate their population of 66 million. Pray for fair distribution of vaccines and for people to continue to take precautions while this is still necessary. Please also pray for Tracy as she continues to learn Thai.

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### 26 AUGUST (TH) SOUTH EAST ASIA

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Mission partners A and L are based in a city, where A runs Celebrate Recovery groups, supporting people through addictions, and L works in special educational needs provision through a number of avenues. They write that L is decreasing her (many) roles in order to focus more on helping special educational needs networks both city-wide and nationally. Pray for clear direction as to ways forward.

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## 27 AUGUST (F) PHILIPPINES

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Eric and Sandra Read, equipping churches in holistic mission and demonstrating natural farming models, have found a new opportunity to promote creation care: opening up their farm to the public. Visitors can escape the city for the day and enjoy the countryside, stop for a bite to eat in the simple café and see creation care in action on the farm. Pray for visitors to start to see preserving and improving the environment as something enjoyable, as an opportunity and God-given responsibility rather than a burden.

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## WEEKEND FOCUS

Saturday–Sunday 28–29 August

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### THE SOUL TREMBLES

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**BY CATHERINE LEE, WHO SUPPORTS THE CHURCH, CHAPLAINCY AND KINDERGARTEN MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF TAIWAN FROM HER BASE AT ST JOHN'S UNIVERSITY IN NEW TAIPEI CITY**

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**The Soul Trembles is the name of an exhibition at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, which would have been running from May to August if the museum had been open.**

The exhibition is by a Japanese installation artist called Shiota Chiharu. The title The Soul Trembles means “the emotional stirrings of the heart that cannot be put into words”. She says, “In today’s contemporary age, everything

changes at a rapid pace, and value systems are in constant flux: it can seem as if the firm and unyielding beliefs that society as a whole has relied upon are themselves being lost.” She specialises in using thread, representing links and connections, which she weaves all around the room in a huge web-like canopy. Her most amazing installation is called Uncertain Journey, a vast net of bright red woven threads coming from black metal frames of boats. Truly stunning.

Life is indeed one long uncertain journey. On Good Friday, we had a major rail disaster on Taiwan’s east coast with 49 people killed, over 200 injured. This year, Taiwan’s centre and south have had their worst drought in over 50 years, with big water and power cuts, threatening crops and Taiwan’s vitally important semiconductor industry, the world’s largest. In May, our little COVID-secure bubble of 23 million people finally burst when the virus found a way in through airline pilots and crew.

The disciples themselves had plenty of soul-trembling experiences on their own uncertain journeys of faith.

Even though we never know what’s around the corner, we can still look forward to a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit as we step out once again in faith to continue our spiritual journey. We are sent out into the world to share the good news with our family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and those we meet on the way, and even if we cannot go physically, we are still called to action, which includes praying for each other.

**Please pray for** a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit for Catherine as she steps out in faith and shares the good news with people around her.

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## 30 AUGUST (M) THE HOLY LAND

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Mission partners Jennifer and Kevin Cable arrived in Israel in late May, ready to begin their work of reopening the historic Anglican church in Jaffa and strengthening the presence of Jesus in the Middle East. Pray for them as they build community, organise church building repairs and prepare to reopen the church building.

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## 31 AUGUST (T) LEBANON

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Mission partners Audrey and Colin Gibson are working with Christian conservation organisation A Rocha Lebanon, Colin as national director and Audrey as education and church liaison officer. Working with people from different denominations, Audrey and Colin are looking to produce biblically-based resources in Arabic on creation care for churches. Please pray for this work to be fruitful and a blessing to the Arabic-speaking church in raising awareness on this theme.

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## 1 SEPTEMBER (W) SPAIN

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Mission partners Felipe and Sarah Yanez help run two food banks in Malaga, are active in their local church and invest time in informal discipleship. Praise God for new opportunities to talk about faith with local friends and pray for food bank volunteers to come to faith. Felipe and Sarah also ask for prayer for their eldest son, Sam, who has returned to the UK for further education, and for wisdom for Sarah in her ministry.

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## 2 SEPTEMBER (TH) THE MIDDLE EAST

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Mission partners J and R write that J’s Bible translation work is somewhat affected by his getting more migraines (which are not necessarily relieved by medication), and his two expat colleagues struggling with insomnia and persistent back pain. Pray for these “thorns in the flesh” to yield so that J and his colleagues can continue drafting the Old Testament in the local language and working on New Testament translation.

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## 3 SEPTEMBER (F) LEBANON

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Nabil and Sarah Shehadi are seconded to Alpha International and network with churches, schools and prisons in the Middle East to enable groups to run their own Alpha and Marriage Courses. Having spent the past year in Cyprus, they have now returned to Beirut. Pray for them as they settle into life in Lebanon again and continue to live between Cyprus and Lebanon for a while as most of their work continues online.