

Mission News – October 2024

(please try to use prayer guides daily)

MONDAY – Today, please remember and pray for our partnership in Ghana with **the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu, Bishop of the Diocese of Ho, our Companion Diocese**. Ghana is the world's second-largest cocoa producing country, but cocoa production has declined with the impact of the *El Nino* weather phenomenon which caused drier weather in west Africa. (You may have noticed the sharp increase in the price of chocolate lately?) Ghana has lost harvest from nearly 500,000 hectares of land in recent years. Please pray for Ghana's economy and that projects and programs will be implemented in the right way and that they will have a positive impact on Ghanaians. Pray, too, that Christians will be influential in Ghana through their faithful attitude toward what belongs to God and what belongs to other people.

TUESDAY – **Threshold Ministries, National Prayer Calendar** gives these ongoing prayer requests: pray for **Darrin** (Street Hope Peterborough) as he meets with those without hope in shelters, halfway houses and tent encampments; pray for **Debs** and her team (Street Hope Victoria) as they go out on Tuesday nights on Pandora Avenue that the love of Jesus would be shown and received; pray for **John Paul** (Moncton Chaplaincy), **Johnathan** (Toronto Chaplaincy) and **Kayla** (Toronto Women's Chaplaincy) that the Lord would give them spiritual discernment and that healing and restoration would come to many in Jesus Name; pray for **Eden** and **Carolyn** working with our provincial government to get CoSA New Brunswick (Circles of Support and Accountability) off the ground; pray for **Mark** as he works with men coming out of prison in Saint John and Fredericton that relationships would be built and lives restored.

WEDNESDAY – **Shiloh Peterson (linguistic organization in West Asian country)**

began her final year of study at Dallas International University on August 28th and will finish next May. She will cover five modules in this course: *drama, dance, visual arts, oral and verbal arts, and music*. Each module will be taught by a different instructor and Shiloh will learn how each one approaches analysis of the different expressive forms. The basic reason for analyzing art forms is to better understand the way they each communicate. There are also underlying reasons communities perform certain specialized forms of expression and an understanding of these can help when communicating the Gospel. When Shiloh completes her studies next May, she will become a consultant in her field of work and she will return to her home in West Asia and work from there. Please pray for health, energy and good focus for Shiloh during this final year of her studies.

THURSDAY – **David & Rhonda Peterson (Dayspring and Newcomers Connection)**

are praising God for a wonderful summer with Dayspring having a good rental season, in addition to a large gift of \$15,000 towards the purchase of new windows for the building. Thankfully, Rhonda's ankle tendons are finally starting to heal and she is back to her daily walks. They would, however, be grateful for our prayers for the following: (1) the preserving of their harvest from their summer garden and preparations for winter; (2) the completion of designated building projects at Dayspring before winter sets in. Labourers are needed! (3) David as he continues to settle into his new role as Housing Liaison at Newcomer Connections. He has found housing for all his clients! (4) their discernment of new ministry opportunities during this fall and winter season.

FRIDAY – Bonnie Hunt (Inner City Youth Ministries in Saint John) praises God for the wonderful response to their summer program which served lunch to close to 1200 people of all ages at their Tuesday and Friday picnics. They also had 40 families with elementary-aged kids take part in their 9-week Backpack program where families received a meal bag with all the ingredients to make a kids friendly meal and a book. They received great feedback! Bonnie shared these prayer requests for the fall months: (1) For new volunteers in preparing lunches for the Lunch Connections program, especially on Thursdays. (2) For an increase in monthly supporters, for doors to open to speak to groups about their ministry. and (3) For the health and safety of our staff and volunteers, and the students and school staff. This fall they have added their 15th school to the Lunch Connections program.

SATURDAY – Patrick Palmer (InterVarsity Christian Fellowship on the UNBSJ campus) is thrilled about a recent initiative to join the two student groups at UNBSJ (one group is primarily locals and the other internationals) in worship of our Lord together. Both groups are musical and have many who enjoy leading worship. With one of the larger auditoriums booked, a worship night was planned. Sixty students showed up to praise God! Some Saint John students also attended Scripture Camp this summer in Malagash Bible Camp. A couple of these students offered to cook Jollof Rice, a dish from Nigeria and Ghana. Please pray for: the new student leadership at UNBSJ as many of the last year's executive have graduated; Patrick's financial support as he is only 69% funded; outreach to new students that they would feel welcomed to their fellowship (74% of students who connect with a campus ministry do so within the first few weeks on campus); and planning for their upcoming Fall Retreat.

SUNDAY – Ben Appleby, the director of Shelter and Housing at Outflow Ministries, says that the shelter has seen a large influx over the last few years of people being discharged from hospitals or released from jails. Often these homeless individuals, particularly those from hospitals, are being discharged into a shelter system having complex health needs and this places a lot of strain on the shelter. In partnership with Horizon Health Network, St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation and Canada East Spine Centre, Outflow will develop six convalescent single occupancy units, each equipped with separate entrances in the uptown area. These units are designed for short term stays (4-6 months), From there the individual will transition to permanent housing or into a local shelter. Horizon staff will oversee the intake process and provide health support and Outflow will provide tenancy support. The tenant would need to submit an application to Housing NB to have the unit subsidized and pay 30% of their income to stay there. It is hoped that construction of these Waterloo Street units would start in September and be occupied by the end of the year. (Source: CBC News posted August 20, 2024) Please pray that this partnership will relieve the strain that the health care system and shelter system are under.