

## Mission News – December 2024/January 2025

(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**. Today please pray for Bishop Matthias and his family (wife **Lucy**, son **Prosper** and his daughters **Rita** and **Angela**) and for their wider church family in Ho. Our Lord Jesus made the home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus in Bethany beautiful by His Presence and He remains unchanging. He still comes to fill the hearts and homes of those who open them wide to Him ... to bring joy and harmony to relationships; patience and understanding in difficult situations; forgiveness and healing to hurts and discord; renewal and strength for each new day. Pray each home will be a centre of light and love and that the spiritual life of each family would be nourished and enriched.

**TUESDAY – Northern Clergy Families Fund NCFE** NCFE marked its 50 years (50 in Sept 2024), praising God that money has kept on trickling in year after year to help clergy families in the North. Now that it is Fall, they will be contacting Bishops of the North to get names of 6 people that they can send out gifts (cheques of \$1,000) to before Christmas. **Lynda Viau**, the present coordinator, emailed, “It (God’s provision over so many years) is still amazing to me! I will be handing over my job as coordinator in late November and **Adele** will be the new person starting in January of 2025... We appreciate your faithfulness to the NCFE and it goes a long way in helping others.” Please pray for a smooth handover and that these gifts will bless and encourage the recipients.

**WEDNESDAY – Ann Elawa (Power to Change in BC)** gives thanks for the opportunities their Digital Strategies team has to reach people online who are not likely to meet a follower of Jesus in person. Besides their English and French sites, they have active outreach to Persian and Arabic speakers, to Indonesia, India (in English and several other languages), as well as some other countries and languages. Ann asks for prayer for great wisdom in making the most of opportunities, and all the resources needed, both human and financial, to do so. For herself, please pray for grace and wisdom as she mentors people, coaches their volunteers and manages the mentorship applications. A final request is prayer for people with computer programming skills and writer/content managers (in both English and French).

**THURSDAY** – “Founded in 1973, **Trans World Radio (TWR) Canada** works in more than 70 countries and in over 50 languages, with our broader partnerships speaking hope to over 300 languages. Using media, we assist the local church to share the message of salvation among the nations. We focus on using the best media for the people we are seeking to reach. In some areas, this means we use radio, while in other areas the internet or smartphone apps better serve the audience. In other more remote areas, we can load content onto micro SD cards and use portable media players to get the gospel into the hands of those who so desperately need to hear it.” (TWR website) Please pray for **Steve (Barb) Shantz** as he fills in as interim President and CEO of TWR Canada while the Board of Directors continues their search for someone to lead the ministry.

**FRIDAY – The Canadian Bible Society's (CBS) *Impact Report 2024*** states that Bible Societies worldwide provided first translations of Scripture in 72 languages, including 15 sign languages. These new first translations serve 100 million people. Scripture translations serving 1.25 billion people were also completed in 2023. We rejoice in the impact these translations will make, but it is sobering that, due to armed conflict, one-fifth of the world's Bible Societies currently face disruption and danger. Our support helps Bible Societies to sustain translation, publishing, distribution and engagement efforts. Please pray for peace, wisdom and safety of Bible Society workers worldwide. We are reminded that “Hundreds of thousands seek spiritual answers.”

**SATURDAY – Beacon Cove**, formerly Safe Harbour House, is a transitional housing residence on Broad Street in Saint John that provides a safe, supportive and judgment free environment for youth ages 16-18 who are at risk or experiencing homelessness. **The Centre for Youth Care (CYC)** operates Beacon Cove and is conducting a capital campaign aimed at building supportive housing for youth 19-25 in Saint John. CYC “believe in the power of safe housing, comprehensive support systems, and meaningful opportunities to create lasting change”. Available supportive and secure housing for youth who have “aged out” of Beacon Cove would provide time for these youth to build necessary skills and connections to facilitate a move to a permanent housing option. Pray this important initiative will result in changed lives for these youth-at-risk.

**SUNDAY – Open Doors (OD)** was founded in 1955, when **Brother Andrew** began smuggling Bibles behind the Iron Curtain to help the suffering church. The existing regimes were determined to remove religion from public life, and Andrew felt a call to strengthen these Christians. His prayer was that the church would survive, despite the hardships. His prayer was answered. Thirty three years ago this month, after Communism collapsed around Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union broke apart. New governments formed, and fifteen independent countries were created, including the bulk of the region we call Central Asia. In many cases, the situation for Christians improved. This doesn't mean there is no persecution – Christians are still a minority, and in many places across Central Asia they are seen as outsiders, facing pressure from society. Pray this month for OD's ministry in this region and that Jesus followers will know they are never alone.