

Mission News – March 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**. The following is the first half of a prayer by Joy Whyte for the Church in England. It is also appropriate for the Church in Ghana.

“O Living God, send the fire of your Holy Spirit upon the Church in Ghana. Let their faith and love for You burn like an inextinguishable beacon. Make them bold to warn and teach; for the authority of the King of Kings is theirs. Give to the people of Ghana, ministers and leaders who teach the true knowledge of You; who teach what is right; and live in harmony with You. Feed them from Your Word; keep alive their vision; let their confidence rest entirely upon You.”

(The second half of Joy’s prayer will be used in April.)

TUESDAY – Reverends Rod & Lisa BrantFrancis (All Saints Church, Tyendinaga, ON) have been going through trying times lately. Lisa is grieving the loss of her father **Bill** who died December 29th while needing to look after his affairs. (Her mother died three years ago.) Rod and Lisa are also supporting their good friends **Doug** (layreader in the church) and his wife **Billie** in their journey with cancer. Doug has pancreatic cancer and Billie had recent surgery for breast cancer. In addition, they, like the apostle Paul, face the daily pressure of their concern for their church in Tyendinaga. (2 Corinthians 11:28) Please pray for God’s anointing on their preaching, teaching (Tuesday Bible Study), pastoral care and outreach activities (Nuggets & Noodles Club). Ongoing prayer requests: the parish financial deficit, Rod’s serving on *The Anglican Council of Indigenous People*, and R & L’s own personal health issues. Pray, too, that the congregation of All Saints will be deeply rooted and built up in the Lord Jesus.

WEDNESDAY – .Charlie Ritchie (Pathfinders, Vietnam) wrote in his Christmas letter, “In March (2024), I experienced one of the great joys of my life – I married **Lydia!** With her, I’ve also gained two wonderful daughters, **Aileen** (15) and **Tracy** (10). They have brought so much love, laughter, and joy into my life, and our family is growing together in God’s grace.” They have started a home church in Vietnam with Lydia’s family, her widowed sister-in-law and her kids and some neighbourhood children. Lydia has been inviting her workmates (she is principal at a private school) for prayer and one of her colleagues gave her heart to the Lord. Beyond these local gatherings, Charlie still meets with a house church whose members are from Hanoi, Quang Ninh, and Ho Chi Minh City. In the fall, Charlie led a group of 12 business people through a study on what it means to do business as a Christian. Looking ahead, they are preparing for a big transition, moving their family back to Canada. (Charlie is a Canadian citizen) They hope to settle in Fredericton by June 2025. Charlie would continue mentoring/teaching

remotely with periodic trips to Vietnam. Pray with them that immigration paperwork will come through swiftly and smoothly.

THURSDAY – Please pray for **Marilyn Otis** who is the interim National Director for **Threshold Ministries (TM)** during **Deborah Moyo's** maternity leave. This is in addition to her role as Director of **Threshold House (Saint John, NB)**. Threshold House is a Christian community and home for men who have completed a 12-step rehabilitation program and are wanting to live addiction free in the power of Christ. Other TM programs include Street Hope in Peterborough, ON and Street Hope in Victoria, BC which minister to the physical and spiritual needs of the homeless and people in shelters. TM Chaplaincies across Ontario and New Brunswick reach out to the men and women who are or have been in prison. The root of the challenges these individuals face are broken relationships. It is the most common denominator for why they ended up in prison or why they are having trouble reintegrating into society again. Knowing this, TM chaplains continue to build relationships with those released from prison, offering a stable and steadfast presence with compassion and mercy.

FRIDAY – **David & Rhonda Peterson (Dayspring/Newcomers Connection)** are rejoicing with their friend **Jamila** (Afghani) that her brother **Khaled** was able to rejoin his family in Saint John in February. Pray for this family in all the adjustments for him after 7 years of separation. Khaled is eager to work and support his family so the older children can study again and pursue their dreams. Another friend is **Nadera** (Uzbek) who they met when they started Chat and Tea at Stone years ago. Nadera, who now lives in Toronto, was recently diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer. Her husband divorced her two years ago and she is trying to raise her two daughters and one son while she is off work for the next year or more having treatment. Pray for R & D as they support and pray for her on video chat. Dayspring has been given enough gifts to purchase and install new windows in the whole building! Pray for the arrival of the windows in early spring so the contractor (a believer) can complete the installation in time for rentals of the building this summer. A final request for prayer is for their daughter **Shiloh** who is finishing up her third Masters level courses to be approved by Wycliffe so she can become a consultant in her field.

SATURDAY – **Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship Atlantic (IVCF)** reports that, in New Brunswick, IVCF is seeing a growing trend of students becoming more open to the Gospel and the message of Jesus Christ. There have been atheist students who are curious about Christ and what Christianity is, plus others who are inquiring about books to start reading to learn more about Jesus. **Patrick**

Palmer, IVCF campus staff, shared about a student on the UNBSJ campus. who doesn't identify as a Christian, but wanted to know about Christianity and is currently starting the book of John. Praise God for this openness. Pray that God will meet these students where they are, revealing Jesus to them. As always, please pray that new leaders will emerge to lead these campus groups as present leaders graduate and move on.

SUNDAY – Bonnie Hunt (Executive Director, Inner City Youth Ministry) sent us five prayer requests for this season: (1) For wisdom in moving forward with new programs that will reach out to the community and build relationship; (2) for an increase in monthly supporters, for doors to open to speak to groups about our ministry; (3) Looking forward to summer programs, pray for guidance in programming and looking for funding; (4) for the Youth Connections program that strong relationships would be formed between the youth. We have youth that come from different schools, so Friday night is the night that they see each other. That we would all grow in our faith journey; (5) For health and safety for all our volunteers, especially those who deliver the luncheons and pick up all the cooler bags at the end of the week.