



GLOBAL PRAYER

AUGUST 19, 2018

Nepal -- Pastor Threatened Amidst New Legislation



Pastor Sagar Baizu had stopped at a café for coffee on July 19th when he was suddenly assaulted by a group of men. After beating him on the head, the assailants fled with a warning: "We will blast your church and all the churches with bombs and shoot you and all your leaders." Cafeteria staff assisted the pastor and police were called to the scene. Thankfully, there appears to be no lasting long-term injuries. Pastor Baizu is head of the Anugrah Vijay Church and spokesperson for the Federation of National Christians in Nepal. As an advocate for Nepali Christians for over 10 years, he is well known for his advocacy. Christians in Nepal have been facing pressure which is expected to dramatically increase when the new anti-conversion legislation becomes official on August 17th. While sharing the Gospel has been forbidden under the 2015 constitution, the new law removes even more religious freedoms and adds new punishments for those convicted. A strong influencing factor in establishing this legislation is pressure from Hindu nationalists in neighboring India. According to a local contact for The Voice of the Martyrs Canada, Christian worship and training will continue to be allowed, but any outreach would need to be done indirectly. Christians in Nepal are prayerfully considering how to fulfil their mission in the days to come. Pray for Pastor Baizu's safety and full healing. Also prayerfully lift up the country's other Christians who are likewise under threat and, therefore, in need of the Lord's protection. May He grant the Nepali believers wisdom and guidance as they seek ways to continue spreading the Gospel, despite this new legislative opposition.

Ukraine -- Armed Raids and Fines in Luhansk



In the self-declared Luhansk People's Republic, armed police are frequently raiding worship services, seizing literature and fining those in attendance. Along with the raids, the Luhansk State Security Ministry has announced a complete ban on the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Christian/Baptist Churches, claiming that the organization has refused to submit to compulsory local registration. After the Russian annexation of Crimea in early 2014, pro-Russian militants in areas of eastern Ukraine rose up, displacing millions of ethnic Ukrainians. Heavy fighting ensued and, in May 2014, rebels seized part of Ukraine's Luhansk Region, declaring independence. In response to continued fighting, martial law was introduced. The rebel administration has also taken aim at some religious groups, including evangelical Christians. Over the past four years, there have been countless acts of persecution such as abductions, torture and property confiscation. In one recent example of persecution, men armed with automatic weapons forced their way into the Grace Church of God Pentecostal on August 6th. In addition to seizing the church computer, a number of church leaders were detained for several hours. Among them was the pastor, Victor Koval. When questioned about the incident the next day, the State Security Ministry denied having any knowledge of the event. Pray for peace in this war-torn area of the world. In particular, ask God to grant the church members peace of mind and heart during this time of upheaval. May these Christians be able to effectively minister to the many needs of the people around them, demonstrating the love of God to their Luhansk community -- even the rebels opposing them.

Sudan -- Court Ruling in Favor of Church



In a surprising ruling, a Sudanese court has ruled against the government in a long-standing dispute with the Sudanese Church of Christ (SCOC) involving ownership of church property. In his verdict on August 8th, the judge returned the administration of the properties to the church. The dispute began after the government's Ministry of Religious Affairs set up a land and buildings committee which was to administer all church property. Since then, church leaders have been regularly harassed and taken to court. For information on one such incident. While this ruling has been welcomed by Christians in Sudan, more action is needed before the persecution ends. Continue to pray for the believers in this northeast African nation.

Nigeria: Important Reminder



On August 19th, it will be six months since 15-year-old Leah Sharibu was kidnapped by Nigeria's infamous Boko Haram rebel group, along with her classmates. While the other students were released, Leah was not for one simple reason: she refused to deny Christ. Fervently pray that Leah will be returned to her family soon!

PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

Mike and Renee Delorenzo – AIM (working in Atlanta)

Muhotas in Kenya, Abba's House

Jonathan, Jodi, Jessica, Joshua, Joseph & Josiah Thar – Taiwan

The Churo School

The Sterns – Argentina via International Teams

The Gideons

C&MA: Carolyn Thorson – Gabon; The Wendels – Latin America; Westergrens – Spain; Cheryl P – Germany; Brian W – Malaysia; The Iversons – Taiwan; Dee Krueger – Guinea; M M – Israel; T & K – Bosnia; Livingstons – Ivory Coast

OTHER MISSIONARY FRIENDS OF CANAAN

Beryl J. Pierce, Major, Salvation Army (Kinzi Wass Pierce's mother-in-law) – Zambia; **Christon & Kinzie Pierce** – Salvation Army—waiting for an assignment; **Kirk & Janis Reynolds**, Navigators (Kowalski) – Chicago Regional Ethnic Ministry; **Steve, Heather, Austin & Evan Webb** (Leonard & Linda Webb's son) – Thailand; **Jeff & April Davies** – Captivated Praise; **Vincent Mekubo** pastor & teacher of orphans in the Kissi-Kingoris area; **Ann Baenziger** (Dr Garnet Harris' daughter)—Ireland.



Ron and Ruth Julian – Home Assignment

Prayer Letter/Ministry Update



Yes, it has been a long time since you received our last update letter, and a lot has happened since we last wrote. We will start with the present and go back in time.

- August 22, 2018 – September 7, 2018

Ron will travel to Central Africa to be with the Bongolo Hospital team during their team retreat. He will then go to Pointe-Noire, Congo to work with the Vili team.

- Around February 2018

We asked for permission to extend our time in the States. Hannah has been doing so well in school (thriving in 7th grade, making friends in her neighborhood, at school, and at church). We asked that she be able to finish her middle school time here. The C&MA leaders agreed to this extension.

- July 2017 – July 2018

Ron, Ruth, and Hannah have been living in Wheaton, Illinois, during their home assignment year. Ron continued in his Team Developer role and spoke at missions conferences for Alliance churches in Ohio, Kentucky and Pennsylvania while Ruth invested in helping Hannah transition to 7th grade public school. It has also been wonderful to be so close to Brandon and Leticia, who both live in Chicago. We see them often and we were all able to get together for Travis and Kaylyn's visit. We all enjoyed getting to know Lewis their 15 month old son!

- July 2016 – July 2017

Ron and Ruth worked in the Team Developer role. Ruth taught full-time at FATEAC. Hannah finished her 6th grade year. After so many years of homeschooling (all but 2nd grade), Hannah asked to do "out of the home" school when we returned to the USA for home assignment.

Prayer Requests

Thank you for praying for us. Here are praises and recent prayer requests.

- For Ron's trip to Gabon: The team will be having their field retreat. Ron would like to listen well and be an encouragement to each team member and also with regards to the team vision as a whole.
- For Ron's trip to Congo: Ron will be arriving close to the time when the Dave and Teresa Bill will be returning to Congo and joining the Bellamys on the Vili team in Pointe-Noire for the first time. Pray for good discussions about their team mission and the role each will play on the team.
- For Hannah as she begins her eighth grade year next Wednesday, Aug. 22.

We praise God for how preparations for Ron's trip have come together including a rapid reply from the Congo Embassy with a visa in Ron's passport.

CANAAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER CONCERNS AUG 19, 2018

SPOTLIGHT FAMILIES FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 19 – AUGUST 25, 2018

Pray for one another.....

✠Jordy, Kayla & Ariana Davidson ✠ Ed & Margaret Dermond ✠ Joel & Kay Dlugos

PRAISES

Praise God for John Raley who removed the tree in front of the residence to provide additional parking!

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST

Those who were baptized last week: Starla & Sarah Collisi, James Schubert, Bob & Sherry Mitchem. **Brenda Anderson** and **Noble Neier** recovering from shoulder surgery. **Paul Hurley** struggling with stress related health issues. **Ray Robertson** is undergoing hormone suppressant therapy. **Kathy Thompson's mom** is in hospice in the Boston area. **Natalie**, Millers granddaughter (13) is in treatment for anxiety and panic attacks. **Pray for Chris & Kelli Destremps. Pray for families in crisis. Health concerns: Kathy Thompson; Larry Nesbitt's dad; Bob Mitchem; Jim & Marianne Ash; Sue Neier; Kay Dlugos; Pam Miller;** Miller's granddaughter, **Natalie; Rita Bedwell's husband, Bill & step-daughter, Crystal;** Wass' former daughter-in-law, **Vickie**, (Crohn's & ulcers); **Pastor Buddy Goss**, New Winchester Baptist, (diabetes, kidney & heart problems), his wife, **Phyllis. Dealing with pain: Vicki Kendall; Ray Robertson; Ann Nesbitt; Debbie Arney; Bob Mitchem; Sharon Doty; Mike Black; Rich Roth; Kay Dlugos; Claudia Wooden; Donna Draper; Ron Kowalski & Jamie Clark.**

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Rob Skillern—stateside Ft Hood	Christopher Barger (Ron's grandson) –Iraq
Robbie Skillern—stateside	Andrew Schwarz – airborne/ranger school (Gruner)
Carlos Kline, USMC (Raley's grandson) Afghanistan	Todd (friend of Mike Anderson)
Daniel Wass, Barksdale AFB, Louisiana	Jared Holtane – Iraq
Brad Royer – Marine Boot Camp	James Myers – Jordan (Audrey Birtchman's great grandson)

KEEPING OUR PARTNER CHURCHES IN PRAYER

Local Church Fellowship Cluster

Lighthouse Fellowship (Coatesville)
New Winchester Baptist
Calvary Chapel Fellowship (H Lake/ Greencastle)
Bainbridge Christian Church
Roachdale Christian Church
Lifespring Christian Church
Whitestone Christian Church
Greencastle fellowship of churches

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Jaclyn Davidson	Haley Purcell
Virginia Muhota	Claire Simms
Olivia Benner (Roth)	Anna Simms
Jackson Benner (Roth)	Rachel Simms
Abby Schubert	Katie Schubert

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CANCER CONCERNS

Claudia Wooden	Sue Neier (breast, bladder)
Rick Miller (bladder cancer)	Tracy Morehead (Rick Miller's sister)
Judy McEachern, Kathy Thompson's sister	Cheryl Roth (Rich's sister-in-law)
Bob Srstka, Medin (Anderson)	Bob Stern (missionary) leukemia
Avery (6) & Jeff (Marilee's gr grandtr & brother)	Sarah Dvorak (Jaclyn Davidson)
Dawn (Cindy Ware's stepdaughter)	Paulita Ream
Larry Dalton & Morgan Myers Audrey B	Gary, Chris Snider (Donna Draper)
Heidi, Linda, Joe, Aliza, Laura, April (Kowalski)	Heather (Pastor Kevin's sister)
Carolyn Ditto	Kelly (Collins) Thompson (Zac's mom)
Lucille (Kitzie)	Leanne (Mitchem's daughter)
Sue Benner (Roth's daughter)	Carla (Sandra Runner)
Kay Robertson & Marylu (Robertson)	Kenny (Flater)
Karen D (C&MA missionary)	Ray Robertson
Florence Dockey (Nicki Vance's grandmother)	Debbie O'Neal (Debbie Arney)
Keith King (Raley)	Debra (Thompson)
Mary Williams (HL resident)	Marianne Ash (skin cancer)

2018 BOARD & MINISTRY LEADERS

Pastor Kevin & Kathy
Ray & Norma Robertson
Mike & Sharon Black
Mike & Dreama Doolittle
Chris & Sarah Schubert
Rick Miller
Kim Hyten
Bea Jones
Greg & Debbie Arney
Mike Collins
Jim & Brenda Davidson
Steve & Brenda Anderson
Ron & Carol Kowalski
Rich Roth
Donna McGinley