



GLOBAL PRAYER

APRIL 22, 2018

Syria -- Christians Facing State of Emergency



Hundreds of thousands of Kurdish people of northern Syria are being forced to flee for their lives as they face attacks from Islamist militias supported by the Turkish military. Many from rural areas surrounding Afrin (a city located in what was considered the Kurdish region) had initially fled into the city. However, on March 18th, Kurdish soldiers in Afrin were also forced to flee, leaving the city under the control of the Islamists. Turkish president Recep Erdogan has promised to repopulate the city with non-Kurdish Arab Syrians who are presently dwelling in Turkey as refugees. Since the takeover, the ousted Kurdish residents have been fleeing Afrin to neighboring villages with only the clothes on their backs. Among the Kurds facing this crisis are 300 followers of Christ who had been faithfully carrying out a relief project in Afrin. While there are now various other organizations providing humanitarian relief to those who've been recently displaced, please pray that these Christians will not be overlooked in the disbursement of aid. Thank you for remembering these believers in your prayers as they endeavor to encourage others from this area who are likewise suffering, demonstrating the compassion of Christ in the midst of the tremendous challenges they themselves are presently facing. Pray for all who are serving in the various humanitarian outreaches, that they be granted strength, protection and the necessary relief supplies to assist all the victims of this emergency crisis. May God mightily intervene in this troubled land, bringing His peace and provision to the varying people groups caught in the conflict near the Syrian and Turkish borders.

Sudan -- Believers Charged for Protesting Takeover

In April 2017, a group of Christians had gathered to prevent the confiscation and sale of a church-owned school in Omdurman. The three-day protest ended when police arrested a number of the men. Soon afterwards, an armed mob attacked the women remaining at the scene. Several men rushed to aid these women and, in the mayhem, a church elder named **Younan Abdullah** was tragically killed. In the days and months that followed, many of the Christians who were arrested have been either released or fined. On April 11th, 2018, a court ordered that four of those men be charged with causing physical harm to police and supporters of the Muslim businessman who was attempting to take control of the church-owned school property. If convicted, each of the accused could face up to six months in prison and a fine. The lawyer representing them is hopeful that the outcome will result in no more than a fine. The names of those charged are **Azhari Tumbara, Muna Matta, George Adam and Kudi Abderhman**. A verdict is expected to take place within the next few days. Pray that the Holy Spirit will serve as an Advocate on behalf of the accused men who tried to prevent the takeover of the church property. May the "peace of God, which surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7), guard the hearts and minds of these believers and others throughout Sudan who are facing ongoing pressure from the government and those in opposition of their faith. Ask the Lord to help His followers to be faithful witnesses, responding in a manner that is honoring to Him, so many in their communities will experience His love and saving grace.

Iran -- Released from Prison!



Iranian Christians are thanking God that **Hadi Asgari**, a Christian convert, has been granted conditional release after 19 months in prison. Hadi was arrested in August 2016 when security officials interrupted a picnic gathering involving a number of Christians. He and **Pastor Victor Bet Tamraz** were sentenced to 10 years for "acting against national security." Another convert, **Amin Nader Afshari**, was sentenced to 15 years for the same charges. While Hadi has been released on bail, Pastor Victor and Amin remain in the notorious Evin Prison. While they await their upcoming appeal hearings, please pray for their protection. Also intercede for Hadi's continued healing and restoration as he adjusts to life out of prison. May the appeals be successful and the sentences revoked.

PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

Mike and Renee Delorenzo – AIM (working in Atlanta)

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

The Sterns – Argentina via International Teams

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

Muhotas in Kenya, Abba's House

The Churo School

The Gideons

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.



Tim & Marilyn Westergren -- Spain



After a great week in Goshen with Marilyn's family and a good weekend with our home church in Wheaton, we fly to Madrid on Monday afternoon for our sixth term of service as ambassadors for Christ in Spain. "We go in faith, our own great weakness feeling, needing more each day God's grace to know." We go with hope knowing that we have brothers and sisters like you supporting and holding us up in prayer.

We will hit the ground running, so we ask your intercession for the following:

- Marilyn, along with Scot Musser and the LIFE School architects, has a meeting with the mayor and city planner to discuss possible land concession and city approval. FAVOR
- Marilyn will attend the Association of Christian Schools International conference for Spain on Friday and Saturday. VISION FOR THE FUTURE
- Tim will sing in two concerts of Fauré's Requiem with the community choir on Saturday and Sunday evening. TESTIMONY
- We head to our annual Spain Field Forum on Monday, April 23rd. If all goes as planned, Tim will assume the role of Field Director on April 25th. WISDOM

Allan & Robin Ballard, Caroline & Evan -- Senegal



April 2018 update...

Thank you so much for your support and prayers for our family this year. We have certainly felt the effects of those prayers. Allan continues working as a regional bookkeeper and has really enjoyed this role as he encourages those IWs around the region. Robbin continues mentoring and pouring life into many women in Dakar through her bible studies and hours spent with people around the Dakar area. Cari Brooke is in her third year at Toccoa Falls College and it has been an amazing experience for her. She has enjoyed her deep friendships there and loves playing on the soccer team. Evan is just a few weeks from graduating from Dakar Academy and is looking forward to transitioning to Letourneau University in the Fall. Thank you for praying for our kids during the college years. Please pray that they will continue to hunger and thirst for more of our good God and his manifest presence. We are heading back to the US for a 3-month home assignment in June and would appreciate your prayers for us as we transition back to the US. We look forward to a change of pace and hope for God's spiritual renewal and outpouring of the Holy Spirit this year.

Thanks for your prayers...

- good health
- Cari Brooke as she finishes her third year at TFC
- Evan as he finishes at DA and transitions to Letourneau
- connections with some good new friends for all of us
- opportunity to show Christ's Love, light, life, and Power

CANAAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER CONCERNS APRIL 22, 2018

SPOTLIGHT FAMILIES FOR WEEK OF APRIL 22 – APRIL 28, 2018

Pray for one another.....

✠ Audrey Birtchman ✠ Mike, Sharon & Eric Black ✠ Mike & Zac Collins

PRAISES

Praise God for his bountiful provision and blessings!

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST

Brenda Davidson in the loss of her brother, Alvin Probasco. **Pastor Kevin & Rick Miller** will be attending the Midwest District Conference the 23rd through 25th. **Ray Robertson** received a diagnosis of cancer on his spine and is waiting for more test results. **Ann Nesbitt** in her recovery from foot surgery. **Kathy Thompson's mom** is in hospice in the Boston area. **Marilee Skillern's** great granddaughter, Avery's condition is stable. **All those from the congregation** struggling with winter ailments. **Pray** for God's guidance finding a resident intern to help reach millennials. **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' 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; Ann Nesbitt; Debbie Arney; Bob Mitchem; Sharon Doty; Mike Black; Rich Roth; Kay Dlugos; Claudia Wooden; Donna Draper; Ron Kowalski & Jamie Clark.**

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Adria Stephens – (Beard's grandtr)	Mitchell Stephens, Adria's husband – stateside
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

Regional C&MA Church Fellowship Cluster

Hope Church (CMA, North Indy)
Fall Creek Community Church (CMA Fishers)
Cityview Christian Center (Inner City)
Christ Fellowship of Indianapolis (South Indy)
Current Church (Franklin)
International Churches
Vincent Mekubo of Kissi-Kingoris -- An Independent church that cares for orphans

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Jaclyn Davidson	
Haley Purcell	Virginia Muhota
Olivia Benner (Roth)	Anna Simms
Claire Simms	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 (Roth's daughter)	Carla (Sandra Runner)
Kay Robertson & Marylu Miller (Robertson)	Kenny (Flater)
Ron Gilmore (Josh Sparks step-father)	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