



GLOBAL PRAYER

AUGUST 13, 2017

Ethiopian Attacked for Evangelizing



On July 16th, while alone in his home, an **Ethiopian Christian** was attacked by a group of local Muslim militants with machetes. As a result, the 27-year-old man suffered deep wounds to the back of his head and required life-saving surgery. The man, who cannot be named for security reasons, was attacked in Hirna, a rural town about 400 kilometers east of the capital, Addis Ababa. The local clinic in his community referred him to a hospital in nearby Asebe Teferi. From there, he was sent to Adama where a doctor, believing the injured man could die enroute to a larger hospital, immediately operated on his wounds. Although the victim is still unwell, the surgery stabilized him enough to be taken elsewhere for specialized treatment. The militant group had first attacked the local Full Gospel Church, damaging its roof and a wall of the building before going to the man's house. Upon noticing he was engaged in an evangelistic activity, the militants became angry and proceeded to attack him. This year alone, more than a hundred incidents of persecution have been recorded within these areas of Ethiopia involving attacks on people and businesses, imprisonment and murder. In addition, Christians have frequently faced other forms of harassment, including rejection by family members, deprivation of inheritance, and the denial of child custody rights.

Unlawful Arrests for Cooking During Ramadan



On June 16th, **three Christians** were arrested in Zanzibar for cooking food in a private home during the Ramadan fast. **Emmanuel Yohana, his wife Katherine, and a woman identified as Khadija**, were arrested at the couple's home. Local police, led by the area district commissioner, forcefully and unlawfully entered the property where the two women were frying fish in the kitchen. The three believers were informed that they had breached the law by cooking food during Ramadan. A police officer at the scene reportedly verbally abused them, before announcing, "Today you will know how to fast." Following interventions by local church leaders, the arrested group was released three days later. While the majority of the population in Zanzibar follows Islam, the constitution of Tanzania declares the nation to be a secular state and protects freedom of religion or belief for all. Yet the discrimination experienced by the Christian minority is not confined to arrest for non-compliance with Islamic law or principles. Christians are also systematically prevented from building houses of worship, as local officials regularly impose additional legal processes designed to prevent construction. Obtaining permission from the community surrounding a proposed church site is often required before construction can begin. However, due to the religious demographics, local communities generally deny these requests. Houses of worship are also attacked periodically. Although such incidents are regularly reported to the authorities, the police and local government rarely pursue criminal cases against perpetrators, even when they are identified.

Maryam Released from Prison!



On August 1st, an Iranian convert to Christianity, **Maryam Naghash Zargaran**, was released from prison. Maryam has served a four-year sentence in the women's ward of Evin Prison in Tehran. She was first imprisoned in July 2013 after being found guilty of "propagating against the Islamic regime, and colluding to undermine national security." During the time she was detained, Maryam had orchestrated a hunger strike to protest the authority's refusal to allow her medical treatment. While she was allotted hospitalization time on June 6th, she was soon ordered back to court where her requests for medical leave had been denied. Although now released, Maryam suffers from heart disease, for which she requires regular medical attention. Harsh prison conditions have also resulted in her suffering from depression. While we are grateful for Maryam's release, she needs our ongoing prayers for her health and well-being. **Additional Note:** Our Iranian brother, **Amin Nader Afshar**, was recently released on bail. In July of this year, Amin had been sentenced to 15 years in jail; and his co-accused friends, **Pastor Victor Bet Tamraz and Hadi Asgari**, were both given ten-year sentences. Although Hadi is the only one remaining in jail, we pray that he will also be released on bail, and that the appeals of all three men will be successful.

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 – Logansport; **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.



Tim & Marilyn Westergren – Spain – Home Assignment



For years the Alliance team of international workers in Spain has labored to establish a Christ-centered, Acts 1:8 family of churches. Engaging, inspiring and motivating our young people is a key element of this effort. Four years ago God responded to the longing of Peruvian church planters Juan & Patty Zúñiga to start a discipleship training school (DTS) for Alliance youth. He plopped a property in their lap--Casa Betania, a retreat center on the Mediterranean Sea in Alicante. Three summers ago the Klassens and Zúñigas initiated a summer DTS to fan the flame of holiness & mission in our youth. This last Thursday, 38 students and 19 faculty and staff gathered for the third edition in Spanish (on the heels of the first one in English)!

I would like to introduce you to three of the youth, all from the church Marilyn and I had the privilege to plant in Tres Cantos, Madrid.

Adriana is a recent nursing graduate who came to Christ through Marilyn's GEMS Girls Club a number of year ago. The only daughter of a couple from Valladolid, she has blossomed as a person and as an enthusiastic follower of Christ. She went through the school last year and is volunteering on staff this year.

Génesis is only 17 and attending her first discipleship school. Though a great ballet dancer, she has experienced both culture shock as an immigrant and peer pressure against her faith in Christ. Pray for the confirmation of her deepening resolve to follow Christ.

Sara, has felt intense pressure from her parents to excel in school and to abandon her faith in Christ. She was baptized last year and is going to her first Bethany School intensive. Pray that Sara might hear the voice of Jesus clearly about her future.

Bethany House has the opportunity to purchase the empty lot next door at a discount. Pray for the financial provision of \$90,000 so that we can build and establish Bethany as a year-round mission training center to reach primarily the M world.

We have seen Jesus supernaturally encounter the future leaders and international workers of our Spanish Alliance family of churches during the last two Bethany Schools. Pray that God will fan into flame the gifts and calling of Adriana, Genesis, Sara and 35 more Spanish youth during these next three weeks. Thank you.

CANAAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PRAYER CONCERNS AUG 13, 2017

SPOTLIGHT FAMILIES FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 13 – AUGUST 19, 2017

Pray for one another.....

✠ Pastor Kevin & Kathy Thompson ✠ Jim & Carmen Tackitt ✠ Andrea VanBibber & Josh Sparks

PRAISES

Praise God for Bob Smith's healing progress!

COMMUNITY PRAYER LIST

Rich Roth was hospitalized after a reaction to anesthesia during dental work. **Bill Bedwell** is home and improving day by day. Bea Jones' brother, **Dale**, has the staph infection again! They are trying to determine treatment and whether he can have chemo. **Pray** for the hiring process of the Associate Pastor God has chosen for us. **Pray** for families in crisis. **Health concerns: Donna Draper; Kathy Thompson; Bea Jones' brother, Dale; Bill Bedwell; Larry Nesbitt's dad; Becky Brush** (Sharon Black's sister); **Bob Mitchem; Rich Roth; Sumner Brown; Marianne Ash; Sue Neier; Kay Dlugos; Pam Miller;** Miller's granddaughter, **Natalie; Rita Bedwell's** step-daughter, **Crystal;** Wass' daughter-in-law, **Vickie,** (Crohn's & ulcers); **Pastor Chet Berry,** Hope Church; **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 & Jamie Kowalski.**

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Adria Stephens – (Beard's grandtr)	Mitchell Stephens, Adria's husband – stateside
Rob Skillern— deployed to Syria	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

Putnam County Fellowship Cluster

Fillmore Christian Church
First Baptist Church
First Christian Church
Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church
Greencastle Christian Church
Greencastle Church of the Nazarene
Greencastle Presbyterian
Lifebuilder Community Church
Peace Lutheran
Sherwood Christian Church

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Ashley Arney	Jaclyn Davidson
Haley Purcell	Virginia Muhota
Jonathon Redman	Anna Simms
Claire Simms	Rachel Simms
Olivia Benner (Roth)	Abby Schubert
Katie Schubert	

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CANCER CONCERNS

Claudia Wooden	Sue Neier (breast, bladder)
Tracy Morehead (Rick Miller's sister)	Judy McEachern, Kathy Thompson's sister
Cheryl Roth (Rich's sister-in-law)	Bob Srstka (Brenda Anderson's uncle)
Bob Stern (missionary) leukemia	Avery (6) (Marilee Skillern's gr grandtr)
Tammy Richman (Bonnie Gibbs)	Jerry Morris (Eric Young)
Sarah Dvorak (Jaclyn Davidson)	Mel Medin (Anderson)
Kathryn Spiars	Dawn (Cindy Ware's stepdaughter)
Joe Shepherd (HL resident)	Paulita Ream
Larry Dalton & Morgan Myers Audrey B	Gary (Donna Draper)
Heidi, Linda, Joe, Aliza (Kowalski)	Heather (Pastor Kevin's sister)
Carolyn Ditto	Kelly (Collins) Thompson (Zac's mom)
Lucille (Kitzie)	Leanne (Mitchem's daughter)
Kay Dlugos	Sue (Roth's daughter)
Jeff (Marilee's brother)	Dale McCloud (Bea Jones' brother)
Carla (Sandra Runner)	Marylou Miller (Robertson)
Kenny (Flater)	