

ST JUDES

PLYMOUTH



Mission Partners Update

Summer 2018

For many years St Jude's has raised disciples who have heard a call from God to move to foreign lands to help spread His Kingdom. As a church, we also support the work of local ministries and other mission organisations. Within this update, you will find prayer requests and information from each of these mission organisations.

Please read and pray.



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Street Pastors

www.streetpastors.org



Good news and bad news this time round: let's start with the bad news so we end on a positive note.

After operating in Plymouth for 10 years, we as Street Pastors have never suffered any form of physical attack from our "customers". But in the space of 5 weeks, 2 of our lady Street Pastors have been assaulted - one was hit by a car driven by an assailant from an incident the team was dealing with and the other was thrown several metres by a "friend" of a drunk that she was dealing with. Both were shaken and suffered some degree of shock rather than physical injury (that's one reason why we operate under the Lord's prayer umbrella). Please remember them in your prayers and give thanks for the very prompt response by the Police on both occasions.

Speaking of the Police, a small section of the Plymouth SP and PP branch were invited recently to the Police Commander's Awards, held in the Guildhall, and were presented with The Plymouth Community Award 2018 for our "*Support in the community in an exemplary fashion*" by Vicky Booty on behalf of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. (*Vicky is herself a Torbay St Pastor*)

A small thing perhaps but nonetheless significant – we were on the Barbican last Saturday and were watching a guy throwing up (*he looked like he was well practised at this!*) before offering water and tissues. He took them gratefully, surprised by the simple kindness I think, and he thanked us, but I felt I could see God's love touching him through that (maybe) small thing to us which might make a huge difference to him.

Sharing of Ministries Abroad

www.somauk.org



SOMA

Communications with teams while on mission can be a real challenge, this was very evident during the latest mission to Rorya, Tanzania.

As SOMA Intercessor Coordinator for this mission, contact with the team was good until they crossed the border into Tanzania. This proved a frustrating time as our texts between the team and myself never arrived due to the networks being shut down. When we live in a world of instant technology and communication this can be a shock to many who “step out in faith” experiencing mission in this way. However, despite failures in texting, that should include words, scriptures and pictures from intercessors and returning texts including updates of the mission and prayer requests from team members the Holy Spirit continues to work. On these occasions we remember we serve a God that knows all things, provides for all things, looks after families while team members are away and as SOMA goes to ‘places less visited’ God blesses, encourages, gives hope, and brings a healing and wholeness to those churches in these faraway countries.

It is however during these times the Lord reminds me from a distance we pray with God’s eyes and we are totally reliant on the Holy Spirit to guide us, what an amazing privilege is that! Gods blessings and thank you for your prayers and financial support.

Shekinah Mission

www.shekinahmission.co.uk



The drop-in centre has stopped cooking a full breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Instead customers have a sausage bap and a boiled egg. It was costing too much and there are not enough volunteers to help run things at the Centre. Shekinah has a new manager who is now based at the drop-in centre and so changes for the better are expected. Please continue to pray for the staff as they deal with more and more homeless.

Transform Europe Now (TEN)

<https://www.ten-uk.org/>



In 2018, T.E.N. celebrated 25 years of Harvest for the Hungry and St Jude's was there from the very beginning. This year St Jude's church raised a staggering £939.00 at this year's Harvest for the Hungry appeal.

But back in 1993, Eastern Europe had little food, so we packed boxes with items that would stave off starvation. These were shrink wrapped, packed in enormous pantechinons and dispatched to countries who had suffered under Communist rule.

Occasionally spiteful authorities would stop one of these vehicles and force them to unpack the contents! I leave you to imagine what the volunteer driver would have felt!

Today there is plenty of food in Eastern Europe but a lot of people – many of them Roma or Gipsy in origin – face life with nothing. No work, no hope, no future and discriminated against

because of whom they are. These are the people who are not only kept alive because of our gifts but get to know Jesus who motivates our giving and who loves them.

OMF in Japan

www.omf.org/asia/japan



Please pray for the Nanae Church as they continue to search for their next Japanese pastor from March, despite the severe shortage. There are so few Japanese pastors that around 30% of Japanese churches have no pastor and nearly half of the pastors they do have are over 70 ! Tim and Miho Walker returned to UK in July with Kent (11), Naomi (8) and George (5). They are looking forward to visiting us at St Jude's again in February. They will then be able to tell us more about their next assignment with OMF, working in outreach from next April among the many Japanese people living in Greater Manchester. Meanwhile in Yamada the relief needs have changed since the earthquake and tsunami in 2011, with so much re-development of the devastated area. So the Yamada cafe /community centre will close down next March. During these remaining months they will be trying to make closer links between the cafe customers and the Hope Church that started there 3 years ago. Photos of OMF in Japan will be on the Mission Partner Board during November.

Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support

www.dcrsc1.cfsites.org



DCRS are in the process of appointing a new senior case worker to replace someone who has moved on. Pray for the right person and that this will take some of the pressures off the team leader.

Students from the College of Art are looking at refurbishing the interior or the office space. We hope they come up with some feasible suggestions and for a crowd funding project which has been set up to pay for it.

Mission Aviation Fellowship: The Rileys

www.ashfordvineyard.org/our-activities



Hi All,

Greetings from Uganda. I'm here for a conference with all of the Country Directors from our 8 Africa Region programmes. It's really great to catch-up on news from our programmes and work together on our strategies for the future. There is a lot to talk about as we plan ahead especially when we consider what new technology might be coming our way. Our new CEO Dave Fyock has joined us for this event as well so it's great to hear his vision for how we will continue to reach people in isolated parts of the world.

News from the Riley family is that Abs has recently done really well in her GCSE exams. She got an outstanding set of results which was well deserved as she worked so hard. She has started her 'A' levels at the same school and is studying Maths, Biology and Chemistry which she is really enjoying. Driving lessons start next month!

Han has had a great year at school as well and it's GCSEs for her next year so she is busy with her head in the books. She is also enjoying being a Corporal in army cadets and the responsibility that brings!

Jo is really starting to settle into her new role as an Enteral Nurse Specialist working with patients in the community and it's lovely grabbing time together as a family amidst the busyness of work, school and changing social lives as Abs and Han get older.

Thanks again for your support of us and our work with MAF. We'll send out another newsletter soon when I can share more about MAF's future strategies and stories.

With love, Mike, Jo, Abi and Hannah

Crossline

www.crossline.org.uk



Please continue to pray that Crossline will be able to find more people to train to be listeners for the listening line. Also, that they will know how to raise awareness of their services amongst those who may need them.

Church Mission Society: The Bennetts

www.churchmissionsociety.org



Steve and Catriona Bennett with Hannah - Church Mission Society .

The surgical programme continues to develop at Gahini. Steve has recently been teaching trainee surgeons in Kigali , pray for more opportunities for both Steve and Catriona to be involved in teaching others and sharing their skills. The hospital is having ongoing financial problems partly due to the fact that the medical insurance scheme does not pay what it owes to the hospital. This has a knock on effect on the surgical programme as there is not enough money to pay for essential drugs and supplies - pray that this may be resolved soon. The current Bishop of Gahini diocese will retire in May, pray for his successor Manasseh as he prepares to take over.

Catriona is expecting a baby in March, pray she continues to keep well through the rest of her pregnancy. Hannah continues to thrive and be all that a two year old should be!

Christmas Card Project: This year's Christmas Card project will raise money towards some much needed items for the surgical programme at Gahini that are not covered by the regular government funding. More details to come!

Letters received from our mission partners are available to read in the file at the back of church. If you would like further information, please speak to a member of the Mission Partners Group.

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