

# ST JUDES

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## PLYMOUTH



## Mission Partners Update

### Winter 2019

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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PLYMOUTH

## Street Pastors

[www.streetpastors.org](http://www.streetpastors.org)



Our Administrator was recently asked, as part of a grant application, to provide some information on what we do. It's a sobering (excuse the pun!) read.

Our work ranges from giving away free flip flops to ladies walking barefoot; protecting their feet from injury from broken glass; water to wash wounds/help sober up those too intoxicated to be taken home in a taxi, space blankets, hats, gloves and scarves to the homeless and 1st Aid as appropriate. Since beginning our patrols in May 2008, we have removed over 72,500 bottles from the streets, in case they were to become a hazard, causing injury by becoming broken / used as weapons; given away over 8,500 pairs of flip flops and over 1,900 space blankets mostly to the homeless. We also give away some 700 bottles of water p.a. to either wash wounds or help rehydrate people who may be drunk, helping them get home safely. In addition, we have resuscitated 2 people who had stopped breathing, helped to avoid 8 suicides and saved a further 3 people from hypothermia and thus possibly death.

We thus benefit a wide range of people from party-goers to the lost, lonely, homeless and vulnerable, not to mention the help we are able to provide to the Police and Ambulance services who greatly appreciate our assistance.

As a Street or Prayer Pastor, it's good to take a step back from the mire of the gutter and take a wider view of our work. We continue to be blessed by grants and prayer – can never have enough of either! SO, THANK YOU ALL!

## Sharing of Ministries Abroad

[www.somauk.org](http://www.somauk.org)



Thanksgiving for your support to SOMA through prayer, intercession, going on mission and financially.

Thanksgiving for the lasting friendships made by SOMA staff and team members during missions.

Thanksgiving for safety in travel and fruitful missions in the recent months.

Please continue to pray for Stephen, Janet and their family. Prayers for Stephen, for wisdom, grace and discernment as he makes decisions to accept or decline the many invitations from Bishops.

We look forward to the visit from Stephen on Sunday 16th June this year as he comes to share about the work of SOMA, and recent missions.

Please begin also to pray for Peter Hadden who will be going on the mission to Maasai Land, Kenya with Stephen and team on the 1st - 16th May.

Pray for all preparations practical and emotional leading up to this time.

## Shekinah Mission

[www.shekinahmission.co.uk](http://www.shekinahmission.co.uk)



Please pray for the re-location of the “drop in centre” and all that that involves. The City Council is going to compulsory purchase the building.

During the recent, very cold weather, customers were allowed to sleep in the centre for the weekend. The centre is now open at 7.30am instead of 8 am.

Please continue to remember all the staff as they cope with all these changes.

Transform Europe Now (TEN)

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



The outgoing CEO of Transform Europe Network, Gerry Partridge writes “The beginning of this New Year is a wonderful opportunity to look back over the previous year and thank God for His provision, blessings and faithfulness. I’m amazed at what God has done through this organisation and you, the TEN family. I am so grateful for your support in prayer, time and giving. Thank you!

Recently, I had the privilege of visiting TEN’s partners in Serbia. I was so encouraged to see growing churches and effective compassion ministries, this as a result of the many years of faithful work by dedicated men and women of God. To see lives transformed by being introduced to Jesus was especially inspiring. I was personally greatly impacted on hearing the stories of lives being made new, having been rescued from addiction and abuse. To see the radiance of Jesus on their faces as they told their stories of once broken lives, now renewed and filled with hope and a future was truly amazing. This will have a lasting effect on me.

Now, as we look forward, let’s first thank God for his amazing love, mercy and grace. With confidence, let’s press on together

in God's commission to go; keeping Jesus central in all we do, knowing it is only through the power of the Gospel of Jesus that individual lives, and communities will be transformed and made new.

Gerry is to be relieved as CEO by James Vaughton from 1st June 2019. With degrees in International Business and Applied Theology, James will be leaving his post after 14 years as Director of Bath and Wiltshire Youth for Christ.

## OMF in Japan

[www.omf.org/asia/japan](http://www.omf.org/asia/japan)

Tim and Miho Walker were very encouraged by the warm welcome they received and the fellowship they enjoyed during their recent visit to St Judes. They are still busy visiting supporting churches and prayer groups etc but are also beginning to make contacts and explore possibilities for outreach among Japanese people living in Greater Manchester which will be their next OMF assignment. The Nanae Church are very thankful that, despite the severe shortage of Japanese pastors, they have been able to appoint a pastor to lead them after Pastor Kimura and his wife move to their next church in April after 9 years in Nanae. It's a time of transition in Yamada too as the Yamada cafe/community centre closes on March 9th. The Hope Church that has been meeting there and will be following up the many contacts made through the cafe over the years, still needs to find place to meet after that.



## Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support

[www.dcrsc1.cfsites.org](http://www.dcrsc1.cfsites.org)



Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support. DCRS The drop in centre is always busy and recently there have been some staff shortages due to illness, holiday etc. This makes for a lot of stress for both staff and service users who get very frustrated when they cannot be seen. Pray that all who come will feel safe and welcome, and for staff and volunteers to remain calm and able to cope.

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## Mission Aviation Fellowship: The Rileys

[www.ashfordvineyard.org/our-activities](http://www.ashfordvineyard.org/our-activities)



Hi Everyone,

I hope your year has started well. It was a real treat for Jo and myself to spend a weekend in Plymouth recently made all the more joyous by Plymouth Argyle's 5-1- victory over Rochdale. We were able to join the Fellowship at St. Judes on the Sunday morning and it's always such a pleasure to do that and spend time amongst our extended church family. We always have such a strong sense of 'coming home'. Mike has just returned from a trip to Uganda to catch up with the management and staff in that programme and is pleased to report that all is going really well there at the moment. His suitcase decided to catch another flight home but it turned up eventually. For Mike one of the key themes of the coming year is HR strategy and policy. We are about to re-write both which is a big job as we think carefully about how we continue to resource MAFs work with

the right people, in the right place at the right time for years to come. Please pray for wisdom. Jo is taking great care of the family as well as managing her full time nursing job in the community supporting patients with feeding tubes and has recently been heavily involved in Ashford's winter night shelter for the homeless. Abs is just taking on her first part time job on top of her A level studies and has also started volunteering at the local hospice. She is considering career and university options so watch this space for more information on that. Last week she passed her driving theory test and will take her actual driving test in the coming months which will be a big step towards independence. This week Han is taking her GCSE mock exams in preparations for the real ones in May/June so this is the main feature of life for Han at the moment. She's looking forward to a well-earned rest once they're all over. As ever, thank you for continuing to partner with us in the work of MAF without which it just wouldn't be possible.

Crossline

[www.crossline.org.uk](http://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](http://www.churchmissionsociety.org)



Steve and Catriona Bennett with Hannah The Bennetts are currently in the UK, Catriona and Hannah since early January enjoying the snow in Scotland while Steve has been back working in Gahini until this week. Pray for them as they spend time with family and friends, do some limited church visits and Steve catches up with his surgical colleagues to maintain his registration and await the arrival of a new baby.

Steve has been making progress towards developing links with colleagues in Kigali in order to become more involved in teaching and training there, though it's been harder for Catriona to find opportunities. Pray that these contacts will continue to develop and for all the team at Gahini while they are away. There will be a number of visitors and students at Gahini in the next few months, including Jenny a physiotherapist recently working in Plymouth , pray for them all without the support of the Bennetts that their contribution to developing the services will be appreciated.

Their latest link letter is now available.

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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