

Prayerline

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Issued on **Wednesday, 22 August 2018**

More information on the nature and scope of Presbyterian Global Mission's work and partnerships is available online at: <http://www.presbyterianireland.org/mission/>

INDIA – Over a million people in the southern Indian state of Kerala have been affected by the worst monsoon rainfall in the area in over a century. Almost 400 people have been killed since June due to floods and landslides.

Christian Aid reports that most villages are either inundated with flood water or inaccessible because of landslides. The rains continues to fall in many districts – out of the 14 districts, 13 are badly affected. Over a million people are staying in around 4,000 relief camps in Kerala, but millions more are at risk and in urgent need of shelter, food and clean water.

- Pray for a break in the rainfall to allow flood waters to subside and people to be rescued.
- Pray for all those who have been affected; especially those who have lost loved ones in the disaster and all who have had to flee their homes and seek emergency assistance. Pray that all in need will get both the emergency help they require and also help to rebuild their homes and livelihoods in the coming months.
- Pray for aid agencies, including the local partners of Christian Aid as they work to help all those in need of aid.
- Pray that Christian Aid's Kerala floods appeal will be well-supported.

For more information go to: [Christian Aid Kerala Floods Appeal](#)

MIDDLE EAST – The Moderator, Rt Rev Dr Charles McMullen and his wife Barbara have arrived back safely following a ten-day visit to the Middle East where they met with church leaders, mission partner organisations and those working with them. Their itinerary included visiting a theological college, a number of refugee projects and speaking at church services.

- Give thanks that the visit and meetings all went very well.
- Pray for the ongoing work and witness of the college, projects and churches they visited.

AFRICA – Rev Uel Marrs (Global Mission Secretary) is on a visit to Kenya, South Africa and Zambia where he will meet with partner church leaders and some PCI global mission workers.

- Pray for good meetings with partners and global mission workers.
- Pray too for Uel's health and safety (especially in travel) throughout his trip.

KENYA – A team from Newry Presbytery led by Rev Stuart Finlay is due to arrive back from Kenya today, (Wednesday, 22 August), having travelled to Tuum in northern Kenya to lead the programme at the August youth camps there alongside Stephen and Angelina Cowan.

- Give thanks for the work of the team members and pray that they will have a safe journey home.
- Pray for the children and young people who attended the August youth camps in Tuum and that they will commit their lives fully to Christ and live for him.

MALAWI – Tragically, there has been another fatal accident in Livingstonia on the Gorodie road - a 20 bend hand-built road climbing the side of the escarpment from the lake, which leads up to the David Gordon Memorial hospital in Livingstonia.

A vehicle carrying a group of visitors from the presbytery were travelling down the road when the vehicle developed braking problems. The driver was unable to negotiate the bend and went off the road at bend 19. In this accident many were injured and two have died. This is the second major accident on Gorodie in as many months, now bringing the death toll to three.

Lyn Dowds writes, *"These are the roads we use daily to bring emergencies and routine work to the hospital and community. Concerns over the safety of the roads, the conditions of the vehicles and the abilities of the driver all come into play as we travel. We have to consider the condition of the ambulances and the drivers as they rush to the emergencies to save lives."*

- Remember those families affected by the accident and those who have been injured that they will heal quickly both physically and mentally.
- Pray for the safety of all who use the road.
- Pray for the funds to ensure the necessary repairs are done in a timely way to the ambulances to ensure the safe passage of patients and staff.

ZAMBIA – Diane Cusick writes, *"August is always a busy month in early childhood development here because teachers are on holidays and so they have training workshops. Schools closed on 10 August, and unfortunately we had to close one of our Early Childhood Development centres at Chilenje, so I brought together the teachers from the three remaining centres I am working with at present to have a week of training in Lusaka. I wanted to*

make sure that teachers were well prepared for the next term as I am on deputation from September and will miss the complete term. We had a really good week of training, practical work, making materials and fun!"

- Pray for the Early Childhood Development centres in Kabwata, Monze and Livingstone, as they begin the third term on 10 September.
- Pray for the teachers and for the children too.

ASIANS in the UK – Christopher and Nivedita Benjamin send the following prayer requests from London:

- Praise the Lord for the monthly prayer meetings and the opportunities to be able to meet families and friends.
- Pray for Christopher and Nivedita as they support people through difficult times.
- Pray for the outreach opportunities they have, that God will grant them wisdom and guidance as they share the Gospel.

MYANMAR – Ian and Pat Hart have returned to Ireland after a three-month assignment teaching for a semester at Tahan Theological College in northern Myanmar.

- Give thanks for Ian and Pat's service at Tahan Theological College.
- Pray for the staff and students at the college.
- Give thanks for the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar (PCM) and for its priorities of evangelism, church planting and theological education.
- Pray for Rev Ling Zaw, General Secretary PCM.
- Pray that Myanmar will adjust well to democratic rule and remember PCM's witness to Christ in a majority Buddhist society.

BIBLE SOCIETIES IN IRELAND – Catherine Little from the Bible Society in Northern Ireland writes:

- Pray for our colleague Dina Katanacho who leads the work at the Arab Israeli Bible Society who is preparing to travel to Northern Ireland to be part of the Bangor Worldwide Missionary Convention next week. Pray for her as she prepares and delivers her message on Thursday afternoon to the ladies gathering and on Friday 31 August at the main evening celebration.
- We pray for our colleagues from countries where there have been extreme weather and natural disasters. We think about colleagues from the Bible Society in India as they cope with the impact of recent flooding for themselves and their work context. We think especially for Rev Matthew, the Auxiliary Secretary of the Kerala region of India, his work colleagues and family.
- We celebrate and pray for the impact of the recent launch of the complete Javanese Bible in Suriname. There is a community of around 75,000 speakers of Javanese in Suriname who will now be able to engage with all of God's Word. They received the New Testament in 1999 and since then work has been done to finish the whole Bible. Pray for church leaders as they prepare to help their people engage with all of God's Word.

Prayer Resource Changes

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) will be launching a new prayer resource this September entitled 'Let's Pray'. This will be issued by email on Thursday mornings and will contain prayer requests on various aspects of the work of PCI including Global Mission.

Prayerline will cease at the end of August and we encourage people to continue to pray for PCI's Global Mission work through this new publication. Those currently subscribed to receive Prayerline by email each week, should note their email address will automatically be transferred to the new 'Let's Pray' mailing list.

In order to maintain a regular focus on PCI global mission workers, we would encourage you to sign up to receive one or more of the Monthly Bulletins written by each of our global mission workers.

The Bulletins provide up to date news and prayer requests and we can send you all of them, or whichever one(s) you choose. Simply email global@presbyterianireland.org stating which Bulletin(s) you would like to receive by email. The Bulletins are also available online at www.presbyterianireland.org/gmwbulletins.

Sincere thanks to all those who have supported our partners and global mission workers over the years through Prayerline.

Yours in Christ,
Rev Uel Marrs
Secretary Council for Global Mission
