

## **Prayer Update February, 2022**

### **Chris and Debi Adams:**

1. I had been accepted into the bible translation consultancy training track of my Masters in Linguistics which was set to have in-person training in San Diego in March-April. However, our state government made a decision to keep our borders closed which means I can't currently go. (Well I can go, but it is highly questionable whether I could get back home afterwards... it isn't worth the risk!). Please pray that I'd be able to attend via zoom as an exception or that border arrangements over here would change such that I am able to attend in person. This training is vital for the work that I am doing.
2. Please pray that we will settle into our new house.
3. Please pray for the kids who have just started their new year back to school on Monday. Sofia (15) starts year 10, Isabella (13) year 8, Tegan (12) year 7 and Wesley (8) year 3.
4. Please pray for Debi and her work. There have been some changes and personnel departures in the pregnancy support ministry which at this point leaves it a bit up in the air. She is focusing on the kids and the house at this point, but is looking to get back into ministry this month.
5. Please pray for me and my studies. I'll be taking two Masters degrees part time at once which will overlap for about 6 months of this year which will be busy. Please pray as I choose my courses this week that I'll get the right balance of workload.
6. Please also pray for YWAM Perth. We had been working towards the opening up of our state borders on Feb 5th, but that date has been pushed back indefinitely now, and the delay is very costly in terms of staff and students on a number of levels. We are very grateful to be safe over here (no COVID deaths since May 2020), but there have been other costs.

### **Pierre & Jeanine Bolduc:**

Chelles:

1. Thank you Lord for spiritual growth in a time of trials (death of Faustin one of our member who had Covid and search for a new meeting place)
2. Thank you for times of prayer together (every Saturday morning) and outreach (Saturday morning twice a month)
3. Lord please; grant us to find a meeting place soon (we've been meeting in a nearby town for the past 3 months)
4. Lord bless this time of grieving with Faustin's wife and family on Monday
5. Lord, help us to be good witnesses of your grace in a time of pandemic.

Val d'Europe:

6. Thank you for 6 baptisms since November
7. Thank you for our 2 interns : Rémy and Fabien
8. Thank you for many new comers who are discovering the Bible in our beginner's Bible study

9. Lord, bless our yearly business meeting on February 13
10. Lord, bless our church community and give us wisdom to know if we should buy the facilities we are currently using or not...

### **Greg & Kristen Brown:**

Praise:

1. Our short-term missionary from France, Sandrine, in the last two weeks has completely filled her schedule with tutoring North African families (children and adults)- all of whom we had a prior relationship with. Very neat to see how we are able to demonstrate Christ's love in so many different angles into these families life, surrounding them with Christians- and now IN their homes.
2. Sandrine has shown resilience in her struggles here, most recently the loss of a close friend- and not being able to grieve in person or go to the funeral. Thank you for your prayers.
3. Despite the restrictions, we managed to get together in person outside for our team meetings, meet contacts in the mall and go sledding with our Impact Kids children/ families. Some restrictions have been lifted, enabling us to now meet indoors with other families. Praise God!

Prayer:

1. Greg has done a pilot/trial lesson with a Muslim friend on the first episode of The Chosen- and it was very well received. We are planning to launch this new course on February 10<sup>th</sup>- inviting all of our North African students to participate- each class we will have a chance to talk about Jesus. We are inviting students this week- please pray that those who are open and searching, those that God will reveal himself to, will come!
2. We are going ice fishing with our male students this Saturday. The following Saturday the women students will be going to the BioDome with Kristen and the other women on our team. Please pray many of them to come, for deeper friendships and for opportunities and boldness to talk about Jesus with them.
3. Sandrine (France) and Chris and Tami (USA) our short term team-members, are considering and praying about serving here long term. We would love to have them work with us, and are praying for this. But we also know Algeria (the other option for Chris and Tami) need the gospel and workers. Please pray for God's will and for them to know His direction. There is also another couple from Toronto who are still considering Montreal vs. Morocco. Please pray for God to grow our team here, both with full term and church volunteers.

### **Chad & Nicole Corman:**

1. Our family is doing well overall. Our kids are all doing exceptionally well at the little Christian School that God led us to. Nicole is currently teaching 1st grade there as well. She began as a sub, but they invited her to stay the remainder of the school year. She is a great teacher, she loves investing in children and the school really appreciates her (so it's a really good fit).
2. While we loved so many facets of life in Malaysia, all of our kids struggled with the education system there. We have kids with learning disabilities and special needs. The schools there don't embrace (or even acknowledge) special needs so it was a constant

struggle for us. We are just now beginning to understand the negative impact this has had on our kids and our family dynamic. The fact that all four of our children are thriving in their current school is a big deal as this has never happened before!

3. Last week Nicole and I began some debriefing with a couple who were in Japan for 28 years and raised five children there. While we have had some great counselling and coaching over the past six months, we really needed to work through a formal debrief process. YWAM does not provide this so we were blessed to work with this couple who have been with OMF for 45 years!!
4. So far the borders to Malaysia remain shut and more foreigners are leaving Malaysia now than any time in the 25 years we have been involved there. (The current government seems to be resistant to foreigners (whether expat, professionals or non-profit workers). I will be flying to Georgia this week to meet with one of the national leaders of YWAM Malaysia who is visiting the US for the next couple of weeks. We will be talking, praying about our family's future and what ongoing involvement may look like in the midst of this ongoing lockdown.
5. For these reasons, it does seem like we may not be able to return to the nation we love anytime soon.
6. So our greatest prayer need in this season is guidance, direction and wisdom. If we need to settle into life in a new city (Denver) once again, we need Father to clearly lead us forward. We need to know what we need to release and the things we need to 'take up'. We are committed to being a blessing and partnering with Jesus to see His Kingdom expand wherever we are located. We just don't know what this looks like for us right now.
7. Please continue to pray with and for us in this (unexpected) transition.

### **Dennis and Valerie Easton:**

1. Safe arrival of our co-workers' first baby in April. They are currently out of the village.
2. Our eldest daughter, Lael, is making applications for Bible College for the fall. Pray that she would have wisdom where to go.
3. Dennis is speaking most Sundays for the next couple of months at various churches in Ontario. Pray that the Holy Spirit would guide him in what passages to speak on and that He would use His word to encourage and challenge listeners.
4. Pray for the Ga'dang people who sat under the Bible teaching in the village. Right now, the teaching is paused while our co-workers have gone out to have their baby. Pray that the seed that has been planted would take root.
5. The Philippines border is opening up for visitors. This should make it much easier for us when we are able to return in early summer.

### **Alenna (Predon) Husband:**

1. Pray for the relationships that God is developing between us and the neighbours in our complex and on our block.
2. Bible Study and a discussion small group are starting up at Dawson College. Pray that students would come and that they would encounter Jesus in the Scriptures and in community.

3. Students go back to school in person this week, but all club activities must remain online. Pray for us as we navigate ministry in the ever changing restrictions.
4. InterVarsity Quebec is launching a Discipleship Year for recent grads in the Fall. Please pray for our preparations and invitations.

### **Bechara & Roula Karkafi:**

1. Mission trip this March (6-27) to Turkey, Lebanon and Egypt. Where we are holding a training conference for our Prison Ministry and another two training conferences in Lebanon and Egypt for our planters.
2. Please pray for the team (2 pastors and 3 other leaders) who are going with me . For protection and safety.
3. Please pray for the goal of Medical Fundraising 20-30k. We are planing to take with us medicine in our suitcases to Lebanon.

### **Ray & Kelly Marshall**

1. Historically, this has always been a big time of the year for us as we usually hold Chinese New Year celebrations with our group. Sometimes we have had upwards of 60 people to these events! However, the pandemic has prevented us from celebrating the last two together and we miss this great opportunity to celebrate together. Please pray for our Chinese friends, who always look to these two weeks of celebration as a time to be together as families, eat together, give gifts and long for a better new year. Many will be lonely and vulnerable at this time of year, and once again it is difficult for them to meet in large groups. However, it is also a time of pressure and unrealistic expectations - just like our Christmas/New Year.
2. Pray that they might spend some time reflecting on the Saviour of the World they have been learning about, who can meet all their expectations - and then some!

Please pray specifically for:

3. Tony - who has been attending our studies for about a month. He arrived in Waterloo in December, and was witnessed to by Dandi from our group. He is genuinely exploring Christ's claims.
4. George - who also arrived in December with his wife and daughter. He will be studying here for a couple of years. They know nothing about God or the Bible but have attended quite a few of our ESL activities and Bible studies since arriving.
5. Dandi - who is sharing her faith regularly at the university of Waterloo. She needs encouragement. She has had a difficult family life and is often troubled by her family dynamics.
6. B - a Canadian who was brought up in Belleville but went to China to work around 2007. He married a Chinese woman and has twin sons. Bill and I have been connecting from time to time recently on WeChat and I sense that he may be ready to begin to talk about what has happened to his faith. He was a teenager with a lot of potential when he was

part of the QBC congregation, but has not talked about this aspect of his life for many years.

7. Sarah - Became a believer and was baptized here a few years ago. She has since returned to China and is attending a church in home city. Her husband recently became a believer and was baptized. Their marriage has had its ups and downs. Hopefully, things will change as they grow in their faith.

### **Rick & Muriel Oickle:**

1. Pray for new ministry opportunities with Ethnos Canada with Establish (a discipleship program). We are in discussions as to how I (Rick) might take part in this ministry.
2. Pray for my brother, Murray, who was diagnosed with a stage four glioblastoma brain tumour. Pray he would have assurance through faith in Christ as to where he is going. He is now sleeping a lot and in palliative care at home.

### **Adam Pietrantonio:**

1. Pray for fruitful partnerships (both prayer and financial) as we are preparing to meet with individuals and churches in California in the coming months.
2. Pray for favour from US Immigration as Adam continues to wait for permission to travel as his green card is being processed.
3. Pray for Adam's family who do not know Christ, that they would encounter and follow Him.
4. Pray for the 99.5% of Japanese people in Japan who do not know Jesus, that the Holy Spirit would use us to love and serve our Japanese friends in creative ways from afar.
5. Pray for our marriage as we engage deeply into ministry together, that Jesus would be our bigger brother and leader.

### **Bernie and Elizabeth Prinzen:**

1. It is still quiet up here. Bernie is making soup tomorrow and hopes to deliver it tomorrow and Thursday (Feb. 3 &4). I'm hoping to get a Valentines Day care package out to Ladies on Thursday (Feb. 3). (With help from our staff).
2. In January I challenged my Bible study group to read through the Bible in a year called the Bible Recap. And several of them joined in...at least 5 or 6 ladies joined in for which I'm so grateful. This may be the first time for some of them to read the Bible on their own.
3. We had a wonderful report today from one of our staff that her health problems have gone away.
4. Please be praying for our friend, and colleague, Cheryl as she is going through chemo and radiation these weeks. She was told she has stage 3 cancer. We are praying for a miracle.

### **Warren Reeve**

1. That God would spare us from further Covid sickness, delays and administration issues. We are scheduled to travel to Turkey & Thailand, I am scheduled to travel to Argentina, all in the next three months.

2. That the Big Opening of the English Speaking International Church would go well on Easter Sunday April 17th.
3. For continued administrative progress with immigration, medical insurance, fund raising and moving into our purchased home.

### **Rachel Rice:**

1. Prayer for wisdom and encouragement for students as many are adjusting to longer restrictions again which has changed some evangelism and outreach plans. Prayer that they can adapt in creative and small scale ways and not loose heart!
2. I am helping to do a pilot group on resilience this month. Prayers for students as they go through the program and that we can adapt and work through the program in such a way that it can be used as a good, practical outreach tool next semester to invite friends out to!
3. Also many students are tired, so prayer for refreshment and joy in walk with God through the everyday would be great!