

MISSION FOCUS

PRAYER DIARY – SUMMER 2018

SUNDAY – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

Mission Focus services for CMS are: St Luke's – 8th July & St Michael's – 15th July

- 'Churches in Kenya are noticeable in the community', says new CMS local mission partner, Rev Meshack Okumu. But these churches are all too often under resourced. Please pray for Meshack as he works for true transformation in Kenya.
- Please continue to pray for Rachel Ullmer in Pakistan – for her safety, security and her Christian witness. Pray especially for her work with marginalised children in rural communities.
- Michael Green spent many years working as a mission partner in the Middle East. He is now helping to support Syria refugees in Ipswich. Please pray for his work and for his visit to Beccles in July. Pray also for the many difficulties and dangers facing our Christian brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

MONDAY – CATHERINE LEE

- 'My English classes are a mix of church members and those from the local community, and it is often through friendships made in the group that those from the local community start to come to the church and from there maybe come to faith'. Please pray for Catherine's English classes.
- Bishop David Lai has been elected as the new chair of the Board of Trustees of St John's University. Please pray for him in this new and influential role.
- Please pray for Catherine's forthcoming sabbatical in the UK. She will be arriving early autumn and will have a very demanding schedule visiting her supporting churches. Pray for her travelling safety and especially for her visit to Beccles in October.

TUESDAY – THE CHILDREN’S SOCIETY

- The Children’s Society shop in Beccles is looking for more volunteers and good quality items to sell. They would be very grateful for any help they can get. Please pray for the continuing success of our local shop.
- Young people’s mental health, especially in the 16-25 age group, is currently receiving a great deal of media coverage. Please pray for Children’s Society staff who provide therapeutic support, befriending, counselling and advice.
- Please pray for the many Children’s Society ‘missing from home’ services including the following: Camden, Rochdale, North East (Scarpa), Lancashire (Street Safe) and CheckPoint Torbay.

WEDNESDAY – CHRISTIAN AID

- Zimbabwe is suffering increasingly from deforestation. Please pray for Dabane, a Christian Aid partner, working with village communities to plant trees for future generations to enjoy.
- Christian Aid’s Tax Justice Campaign has the strapline, ‘Give tax dodgers nowhere to hide’. The UN and IMF estimate that developing countries lose between \$100 -300 billion every year through tax avoidance by large corporations such as Amazon, Google and Starbucks. Very often this is done through perfectly legal loopholes which are used to advantage by these corporations. Closing these loopholes could make a huge difference to the amount of money that developing countries have to spend on education and healthcare. Please pray that this campaign will gather momentum both in the UK and abroad.

THURSDAY – RUKUNGIRI

**Mission Focus (HARVEST) services for Rukungiri are: St Luke's and St Michael's
– 30th September**

- Please pray for two new fund-raising initiatives: to build a new long drop toilet (as the old one is full!) and to buy new benches and chairs for some of the classrooms.
- Give thanks for the gift of money raised by a toddler group in the UK. This has allowed the purchase of some new plastic furniture for the nursery school. Some of the old furniture had become broken and was too dangerous for the children to use.
- In 2017 some of the financial reserves had to be used to balance the books for that financial year. This is obviously something that ought not to be necessary on a regular basis. Please give as generously as you can to our Harvest Appeal for Rukungiri.
- Pray for gentle rains, full water-storage tanks and a good harvest.

FRIDAY – KAGERA

Give thanks and pray for:

- Ngara Anglican Primary School (NAPS); for the children and staff and the funds needed to complete the new dormitory building.
- Mchumgaji Mwema (Good Shepherd) Secondary School – especially for the provision of teaching materials.
- KCTC (Kagera Christian Training College); especially that those students starting their training in August will find the financial support they need – and for those who graduated in June.
- Murgwanza School of Nursing: that the staff and students will not become discouraged when caring for others in such difficult circumstances.
- The team of retired teachers who visit primary schools in our diocese delivering “ Kagera Days”; a lively programme about life in Kagera.

SATURDAY – THE BIBLE SOCIETY

- **Morocco:** Do you find it hard to be a disciple of Jesus? Then pray for Christians in Morocco. There a discipleship course includes: ‘telling your family about your faith’ – and how *not* to tell! Advice on how to respond to the police (be brave) and encouragement to learn scripture verses, so that you can remember and draw strength from them when you are in a prison cell. We don’t know the name of the man who leads the Bible Society there – it would be too dangerous for him to be named. He’s already been in prison several times. Please pray for all the Christians in Morocco, that they will know God’s peace and protection.
- **Mozambique:** This is where Margaret Birch spends much of her time. Two Bible ‘hubs’ have been opened to sell Bibles. Before this, people would pay twice the cover price in the market for a Bible. Now they can buy them more easily and 50 people in one pastor’s congregation have bought them. ‘People go to a sermon, go home, read their Bibles and reflect, and their faith is growing’, says the pastor. Thank God for this increase, not only in number, but in depth of faith in Mozambique, and pray that we, too, will grow in faith as we read God’s word.

Growing in
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