FBC Ambassador Prayer Items April 2020

#### STEVE and DONNA THURMAN, in Idaho in US, but will take some trips overseas - Team Kiwi

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- The coronavirus pandemic is creating cancellations and suspensions in our ministry plans and dates, wisely so. Please pray that God will give wisdom to those who are making these important decisions, and that Steve and Donna will please the Lord in the decisions they make regarding participation.
- Steve is studying for the Grace Evangelical Society annual conference. He has been asked to teach both a plenary session and a workshop. His plenary session: "Man, Sin, and Free Grace." His workshop session: "Growing a Grace Culture in your Church and Ministry." At this point, we're not sure the GES conference will be in May or October.



- Steve is connecting regularly with those he has taught in various countries, encouraging and counseling them during these uncertain days. Specifically, he is in contact with pastors in Nepal, Sri Lanka, Nigeria, Myanmar, and New Zealand. Many are deeply concerned, some are "losing" their ministries, some are fearful, all are deeply concerned about the impact on those they love and serve, and all are concerned about the financial impact on their meager financial funds and retirement accounts. Steve asks for "compassionate wisdom."
- Donna continues to faithfully follow up on our ministry to Kenya, communicating with Ugunja pastor William Omollo, determining what the needs are, and specifically helping the students there, especially those Team Kiwi is financially supporting through university. The pandemic has thrown everything into extreme uncertainty; schools are beginning to shut down; churches are questioning whether or not they can or should meet; health, safety, and finances are at stake.
- Opportunities are abundant to serve others during this pandemic. Our next door neighbors are in their mid-80's, neither has believed in Christ, she fell and broke her wrist recently, and God has opened a huge door to come alongside and comfort them. Donna is making meals, we are delivering groceries to their door, etc, etc ... please pray for this "older couple" that they will stay safe, and that Steve and Donna will be used by God to soften their hearts toward the Cross.
- Requests regularly arrive for Steve to come and teach .. in Nepal and Myanmar especially. He wants to go! But who knows when the doors will open for him to go safely, get on an airplane, and fly to these places? Some of life is on "hold" right now, not all of life, but some of it. Please pray.
- Please pray with us that all our children and grandchildren who are scattered over the US and the world are all doing well, staying safe, and being wise.
- We give thanks for all those who continue to financially support us. Considering the expenses of ministry, etc, we simply could not move forward without the faithful and gracious help of so many. Thank you!



#### SHEIKA and HAKA SAMBUUDORJ, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia with Witness Mongolia

sheika@illyricum.org, www.witnessmongolia.org

- Sheika plants churches and trains church planters in Mongolia. Haka works with medical professionals in Mongolia and serves as a physical therapist. They have three children, Tungana, Thingsaa, and Megeii.
- There have now been several cases of the coronavirus in Mongolia but happily no deaths. All public meetings, including church services, are

prohibited at least until April 30. So far my family does regular hospital visits to both the Mental and Burn hospital, taking care of/encouraging them to use this critical moment for Christ. We are also working with pastors and leaders in the body of Christ, organizing and hosting many different of small groups in our home to be bold and brave to overcome and to be light and salt among the community and to our nation. For our church, City Vision Church, we have our services online, so people can still attend. Due to closure of schools & kindergartens many kids are highly at risk while their parents gone to do their job and earning the money for their family. in Mongolia it's very common to lock their kids & leave them alone whole day. But my family and our church are making sure and getting responsibilities that children are healthy & protected against possible violence, malnutrition, neglect. Thus it is great to be able to use these troubled times to be witnesses for Jesus. Pray for this.

• We pray for our next church plant in Mongolia.

### ERIC and DEB SMITH, in Colorado Springs at One Challenge

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• Debbie: Debbie is the Senior Director of Personnel for our organization, One Challenge. In that role, she is responsible for all of the personnel sent from the United States. This involves about 125 families. Many are going to very dangerous places. She also has a tendency to err on the side of caution, and she knows it. Her prayer request is for the ability to balance risk with strategic ministry, and make the best



decisions for our organizations and the people she is releasing. Currently she is trying to care for a number of our OC folks that are caught outside of their home country. Pray for wisdom with this.

• Eric: The Mongolian government has closed down all public meetings, including church services, at least until April 30. So we will not be able to plan for an alternate date for the church planting coaching meeting until sometime in the future. Happily, I am not now getting opposition from any leaders that are part of the decision to carry on, but I can tell from the way they phrase things, that they still do not understand that I am coaching and not teaching a class. It seems likely I will need to demo the coaching before they truly catch on. Thus pray, hopefully soon, the coaching conference can be rescheduled. I am also trying to help my partners in Mongolia, Thailand, and the Philippines. There are a number of people whom I coach in other countries who I am continuing to work with.



# RICK and LEAH ROOT, Experience Community, Colorado Springs

 $\ rnl@we experience community.com, \ http://we experience community.com$ 

- Direction on how to prioritize the things we feel called to while doing things that will create much needed income.
- Finances to catch up from being short on support and extra bills.
- Praise I, Leah, have a part-time job as an in-home senior care provider.
  Pray for help to establish a new schedule especially in the complex times we live in.
- That lives would be impacted for the kingdom as we serve in the ways we see God directing us.

## ED and KAREN ALDRICH, His Urban Presence, Colorado Springs

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- Pray as we seek to serve those in the community who are homeless or struggling to get back on their feet. We especially would like God's guidance into how best serve the folks we serve in this time of the coronavirus.
- Pray for God's guidance for what He wants in the future. There are possibilities with partnering with other ministries.
- We live busy lives including serving in ministry, relationships with friends, and being parents. Pray for energy, strength, and wisdom to balance the different priorities.





### **KRISTIN LANE, Indonesia** with Network of International Schools, teaches at Bandung Alliance Christian School

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- Praise the rainy season has officially started.
- Pray for health as a lot of people have been sick.
- Two thirds of our Admin will be different next year. Please pray for a smooth transition
- Five fellow teachers and I will be spending spring break at some islands doing a teachers

training. Please pray for health, safety and to be able to help/connect with the local teachers there.

#### **RON and MIKEL ANN PRITZ,** in *Colorado Springs* One Challenge Associates <u>RonPritz@oci.org</u>, <u>MikelAnnPritz@oci.org</u>, <u>http://www.onechallenge.org</u>

• Praise our two sons and their families (13 of us altogether) were able to gather at Keystone in mid-March for a family reunion to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. It was a great time and the timing was good to be ahead of the coronavirus.



 It is looking like April is going to be a very slow month for us. We have had to cancel all travel plans and are confining ourselves to our home, except to go out shopping as needed. Thanks for your prayers for our wise use of our time while we're confined to our home these weeks and months.

## EVERETT and TERRIE BARKER, R.E.A.L, Pharr, Texas

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- Unfortunately the Engaging Challenging Youth training conference scheduled for March had to be postponed due to coronavirus precautions. Pray that it could be rescheduled (maybe June?).
- Pray the kids who would normally be in the after-school Kingdom Kowboy Club. Pray they will remember what they have learned and embrace the truths of God's word in their hearts and lives.

# MARLIN and RUTH BRUBAKER, Reach Beyond (formerly HCJB Global), in Colorado Springs



http://reachbeyond.org

- Please pray for Marlin's IT coworkers as they continue to handle day-to-day issues for Reach Beyond. Pray as Marlin has been assigned to a new project which which will help Reach Beyond process donations.
- Emily and Sarah have returned from Ohio and are doing their university classes online, which is a big adjustment for them. We are enjoying the unexpected time together and have had some nice days when we could take walks outside. It was a special treat to have Emily here with us for her birthday!
- Emily would like find an opportunity to teach in South America this summer.
- Ruth's lower back pain has lessened some which is a praise. However, pray

for wisdom for her and doctors as to next steps to take for her back.

• Please keep in your prayers the Reach Beyond missionaries around the world, for wisdom and protection as well as the ongoing ministry. Pray that people would be open to the gospel and that God would be glorified.

## LOREN MUEHLIUS, LightSys, Colorado Springs, helping missionaries with mapping

#### www.LightSys.org, www.missioninfobank.org

We are thankful to God our four weeks of Code-a-Thon in March were able to take place. From feedback from students, most said they enjoyed their week and several appreciated deepening their relationship with God. A number of students mentioned that their Code-a-Thon time increased their desire to be involved in missions either by giving or being involved in missions. A number of computer programs were written which can help several mission organizations. There were complications during the last two weeks, since the students weren't able to come to compute the several completes the students.



There were complications during the last two weeks, since the students weren't able to come to our office for the event. It took some extra work, but it was possible to hold the event remotely with the students for those two weeks. During the third week the students were able to stay on their campus until Thursday, when they were told they would need to leave. Thus we had to cut that Code-a-Thon week short, which was a disappointment to us and the students. Overall, Code-a-Thon went well.

- I spent most of last week trying to make some adjustments to the administrative borders of one of the countries in Asia that I had previously worked on to map where churches are located. Unfortunately at the end of the week I wasn't able to fix the issue, so pray for the programming people as they continue work on it.
- Our second webinar for the Christian mapping e-mail group took place the last week of March. It went well. A highlight was the mapping director for Samaritans Purse joined us and shared that he was very busy trying to make a map program showing where the most need was for helping responders in the U.S. deal with the coronavirus. We gave a few suggestions and one person may have time to give him more help.
- Work continues to develop mapping church information for a country in Africa. I also plan to do this for Mongolia. I am working on language maps for several North Africa and Middle East countries.
- We hope to have 5 interns this summer at LightSys. Pray as several students are in various stages of the application process.

(Contact Loren (lorenmapper@gmail.com) to include prayer items including short-term trips)

