

# ASK 2021

## PRAYER DIARY



The Leprosy  
Mission  
International



Photo © Daniel Christiansz

# Clare's Story



Clare is from Papua New Guinea. She wants to be a primary school teacher when she's older because she has a heart for it after seeing others teach. Leprosy has made it hard for Clare to achieve her goal.

"Leprosy has impacted my education. Because of leprosy I have missed some of my school classes. It takes me around 30 minutes to walk to school. I felt fatigued and tired because of leprosy so I didn't always want to go to school. I still tried my best to get there.

"My parents wanted me to stay home and recover, but often I would walk to school regardless of what they said!"

Her parents told us that The Leprosy Mission's team in Papua New Guinea have made a big difference,

"The Leprosy Mission has helped us a lot. They told us that Clare can't miss treatment and we did the financial training they offered. We learnt to manage our finances and they supported us as we set up a table market."

Clare is hoping that she can go to university so that she can become a teacher.

"When I become a teacher, if I meet a student with leprosy I would try to encourage them through sharing my own story."

## Welcome from the International Director



Dear praying friends and colleagues,

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought huge change to our world and the way we live our lives. While it has affected us, it has been devastating for the poor, and in particular, people and families who are living with leprosy. Like all disasters, be they natural or man-made, the poor are always impacted the most.

While Covid-19 has brought about unique times, they are not unprecedented. Since The Leprosy Mission was founded in 1874, there have been two world wars, a great depression, a pandemic that killed tens of millions of people (the Spanish influenza of 1918-19), and famines that have killed millions. Throughout the last 150 years, be they good times or otherwise, we have remained a Mission committed to prayer, and our Lord and Master has always provided for the Mission and those we serve.

Despite all that is happening around us, my wonderful colleagues continue their work around the world, serving people, families and communities affected by leprosy. While Covid-19 has required us to work and operate in different ways, our vision of seeing 'Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed' remains unchanged.

The ASK Prayer Diary highlights the work and ministry of The Leprosy Mission and the journey God has called us to. On behalf of The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship, it is my pleasure to present these to you and ask that you join us on this journey by praying for our work across the globe. Thank you for support, it is really appreciated! Wishing you and yours God's blessing and protection at this time.

**Brent Morgan**  
International Director





## OUR VISION

### Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed

## OUR MISSION

Following Jesus Christ, The Leprosy Mission seeks to bring about transformation: breaking the chains of leprosy, empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness.

## OUR VALUES

Because we follow Jesus Christ, we value

- Compassion
- Justice
- Integrity
- Inclusion
- Humility

*I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.*

1 Timothy 2:1 (NLT)

Trusting in the knowledge that God hears and answers prayer, holding to the belief that our work is the Lord's, and realising that all our human efforts are in vain without God's blessing and power, we share this ASK Prayer Diary to encourage believers everywhere to pray for the extension of God's Kingdom through this work.

**International Chairman**  
Colin Osborne

**International Vice-Chair**  
Anne Ratliff

**Treasurer**  
Philip Putman

**International Director**  
Brent Morgan

### ASK 2021 PRAYER DIARY

Published by The Leprosy Mission International  
Founded in 1874

**Production Editor**  
Tim Burton

**Design**  
Mark and Heather Knight

© The Leprosy Mission International 2020



## CONTENTS

International Director's welcome	1	Bangladesh – Leprosy Control and Research	69
TLM's vision and values	2	Belgium	55
What is leprosy	4	Canada	56
Where leprosy is found today – world map	6	Chad	36
Prayer Diary	8	Democratic Republic of Congo	30
How to get involved	80	Denmark	26
Where TLM works – map	82	England and Wales	21, 70
How your care can live on	85	Ethiopia	46
Contact details	86	Finland	68
Senior staff in India	88	France	38
Glossary	89	Germany	47
		Hungary	59
<b>FEATURES</b>		India – Advocacy and Communication	74
Kajari's story	22	India – Community-Based Rehabilitation	39
Charles' story	32	India – Countrywide	11
Habsou & Mariama's story	37	India – Healthcare	54
Alina's story	53	India – Vocational Education	65
Venancio's story	66	Indonesia	57
Pastor Elisha's story	78	Ireland	56
V Ramb Babu's story	84	Italy	64
		Mozambique	27
<b>DEVOTIONS</b>		Myanmar	14
Seeing through God's eyes	16	Nepal	31
The least we can do	28	Nepal - Anandaban Hospital	71
Born in prayer, cradled in prayer	50	Netherlands	49
There is no person affected by leprosy who doesn't matter to Jesus	60	New Zealand	42
		Niger	24
		Nigeria	44
<b>PRAYER DIARY BY THEME</b>		Northern Ireland	15
Being Christ centered	76	Norway	64
Fundraising	43	PNG and Bougainville	41
Global Networks	63	Scotland	45
Global Voice	75	Singapore	35
The Leprosy Mission International	25	South Africa	34
Research	73	South Korea	35
TLM's Global Fellowship	8	Spain	52
TLM Churches	58	Sri Lanka	20
TLM Trading	13	Sudan	40
The Leprosy Mission Shop Australia	62	Sweden	10
World Leprosy Day	12	Switzerland	19
		Tanzania	52
<b>PRAYER DIARY BY COUNTRY</b>		Thailand	57
Australia	72	Timor Leste	18
Bangladesh – Community-Based Rehabilitation	48	USA	56
Bangladesh – Countrywide	9		



# WHAT IS LEPROSY?

Leprosy is often considered a disease of the past. In fact, it continues to destroy lives all over the world as one person every two minutes is diagnosed with the disease.

Leprosy is a mildly infectious disease caused by the bacillus *Mycobacterium leprae*. It is most common in places of poverty as overcrowding, poor nutrition, and bad sanitation weaken people's immune systems, so they are less able to fight the disease.

*Leprosy is a disease that preys on the most vulnerable people on the planet.*

## WHAT DOES LEPROSY MEAN FOR THOSE AFFECTED?

### PHYSICALLY

The first signs of leprosy are pale patches of skin. Leprosy is curable with a treatment known as Multi Drug Therapy (MDT), but if it goes untreated the consequences can be severe.

*Mleprae* also attacks the nerves of the body, meaning people affected by the disease see changes in their bodies.

These changes can mean people affected by leprosy may lose feeling in their hands and feet, which is dangerous as a cut on the foot from walking on rough terrain goes unnoticed, or a boiling pan is picked

up without realising the damage that is being done to the skin. These injuries can lead to ulcers and even amputations in extreme cases.

The damage that leprosy does to nerves around the elbows and knees, can also lead to muscle paralysis resulting in clawed hands and drop foot. Paralysis of the eye muscles can eventually lead to blindness.

Acute episodes of inflammation called 'reactions' happen in up to half the people diagnosed with leprosy. Reactions cause swelling and pain in skin, nerves and eyes, and patients may need to be hospitalised for months.

### SOCIALLY

The social consequences of leprosy can be as severe as the physical consequences. The stigma surrounding leprosy in many communities means that people affected by the disease face incredible levels of discrimination from their communities, friends, and family.

Children will find they are turned away from their schools and their families. Adults are turned away from jobs and from housing. Far too many people affected by leprosy have no choice but to beg in order to get by.

In the coming pages you will see a glimpse of how we are trying to turn the tide on that discrimination across the world.



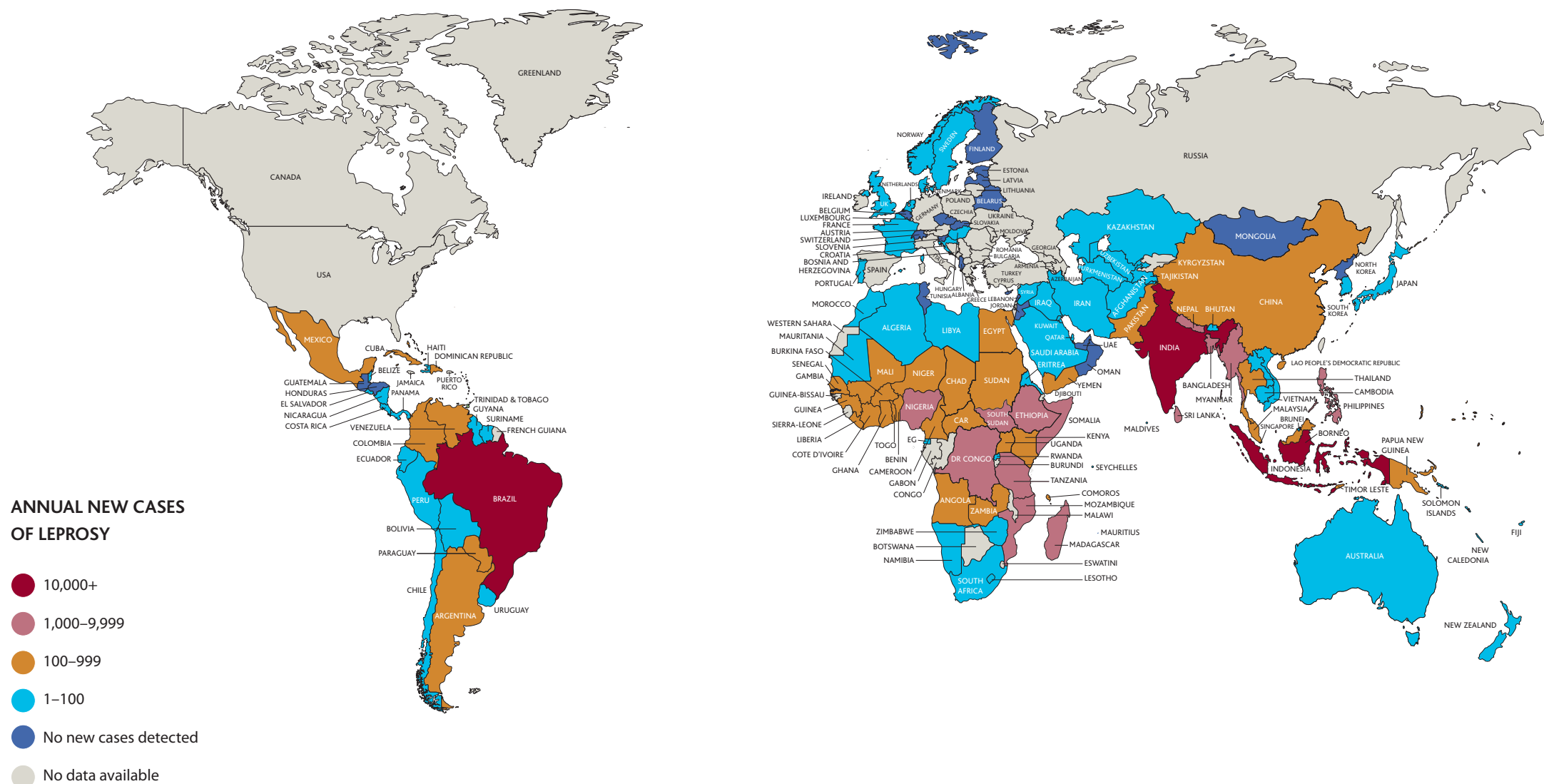
### KEY LEPROSY FACTS:

- Around 200,000 people are diagnosed with leprosy every year
- There are more than 100 laws that explicitly discriminate against people affected by leprosy
- We believe that, if we work together, there will be no new cases of leprosy by 2035
- Leprosy is reported in 127 countries, with 79% of all new cases occurring in India, Brazil, and Indonesia (2019 data)

## WHERE LEPROSY IS FOUND TODAY

For a map of the countries where TLM works see page 80

TLM is committed to providing long-term quality care and support in the name of Jesus Christ as long as there are people affected by leprosy who need it.



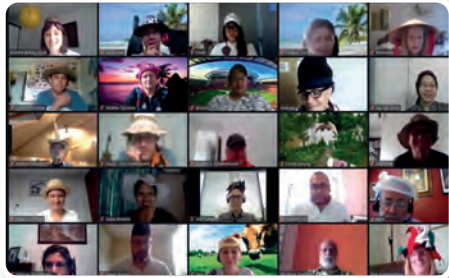
SOURCE: WHO 2019



## THE LEPROSY MISSION'S GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP 1–3 JAN

*Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace be with you.*

2 Corinthians 13:11



The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship consists of 31 Members and Affiliates across the world. Each has committed to work together as one to defeat leprosy.

The Fellowship was formed 10 years ago (June 2011) when the Member Countries signed the TLM Charter, which commits us to:

- Uphold our common purpose and identity
- Contribute to the shared life of the Mission
- Strengthen our global unity
- Be mutually accountable
- Observe financial stewardship

Being a part of the Global Fellowship means that, whether you are a staff member or volunteer working in a busy capital city office or you are a clinician working in a remote village, you are part of a larger family of more than 2,000 people who are working to defeat leprosy and transform lives.

Christ is at the heart of the Global Fellowship and we will always be defined by diversity, unity, mutual support, and prayer.

**Top:** Normally the TLM team gathers together each year to learn together. In 2020 we were kept apart physically, but that didn't stop us getting together. This is a screenshot of the Global Workshops in June 2020.

### PRAYER POINTS

**FRI:** As we celebrate 10 years of the Global Fellowship, thank God for all the blessings He has poured out upon the Mission, our people, and our programmes. Thank Him for bringing us together behind this unified purpose.

**SAT:** On this 10th anniversary of the Global Fellowship, pray for the next 14 years as we push toward our goal of ending the transmission of leprosy by 2035. Pray that, with God's strength, we will succeed in our task.

**SUN:** Thank God for all of our staff, volunteers, and Board members across the world. Each one of them brings something important to our work. Ask God to bless them all as they work this year and thank Him for the diversity of His people amongst our ranks.

## BANGLADESH – COUNTRYWIDE 4–10 JAN

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

Isaiah 41:10



The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh implements 22 projects across 34 districts and employs 318 staff members. The country office is based in Dhaka, the capital. The office is responsible for overseeing and ensuring adequate support for projects, networking, and maintaining relationships with partners and relevant stakeholders.

TLM Bangladesh's projects include leprosy control, community-based rehabilitation, advocacy, research and a leprosy referral hospital (DBLM) located at Nilphamari.

In alignment with the global focus on ending leprosy transmission, disability, and discrimination, TLM Bangladesh sees research into leprosy as a major way to contribute to the global strategy. TLM Bangladesh is trying to facilitate and enhance the knowledge and skill of personnel who are conducting medical and operational research and support international research projects.

TLM Bangladesh also provides services in some districts to reduce the prevalence of tuberculosis in cooperation with the National Tuberculosis Programme.

**Top:** A wife helps her husband drink some water. Leprosy has attacked the nerves around his elbow, meaning that he struggles to hold the glass.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for God's strength as Bangladesh and the TLM team in Bangladesh work to overcome the ongoing consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**TUE:** Maintaining steady economic growth in Bangladesh is a challenge that will have an impact on low and middle-income groups. Pray for those people in Bangladesh who are facing financial instability, particularly those who are affected by leprosy.

**WED:** Pray that community-based organisations will be able to maintain and manage their income generation activities and loan giving after a lengthy interruption due to the pandemic.

**THU:** Pray for the successful implementation of TLM Bangladesh's 2021-25 strategy.

**FRI:** TLM Bangladesh is working on being registered as a local (rather than international) NGO with a Bangladesh-based Board. Pray for the team as they work towards this goal.

**SAT/SUN:** Please pray for TLM Bangladesh's partnerships with the Government, other NGOs, and implementing partners as they work towards ending the transmission of leprosy and the associated disability and discrimination.

### KEY STAFF

Mr. Salomon Sumon Halder – TLMIB Country Director  
 Mr. Jiptha Boiragee – Programme Support Coordinator  
 Mr. James Taposh Adhikary – Administration and Finance Coordinator  
 Mr. Surendra Nath Singh – Programme Leader, Community Programme & Rural Health Programme  
 Mr. John Arpon Samaddar – Programme Leader, Chattogram & Dhaka Programme  
 Mr. Augustine Amal D'Rozario – Programme Leader, DBLM Hospital Programme  
 Mrs. Suma Reverio – Human Resources Manager  
 Dr. Benedict Alo D'Rozario – Chairman of the Board

## SWEDEN

*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

Proverbs 31:8-9



The Leprosy Mission has been active in Sweden since the mid-1970s. In 1985, TLM Sweden was established as an organisation. Through membership of The Swedish Mission Council, money from the Swedish government is available to different projects.

Based in Kumla, The Leprosy Mission Sweden works to raise awareness of leprosy in the world and to give support to leprosy work. Through fundraising among individuals, organisations, churches and church groups, TLM Sweden works to fulfil its vision. A monthly newsletter with challenges and reports from our projects is sent all over the country. A number of ambassadors and presenters keep contact with people and churches in their different areas. Information on leprosy is given to Christian groups, churches and schools.

TLM Sweden has contact with their neighbour Nordic countries for cooperation in different ways.

TLM Sweden supports work in India, DR Congo, Nigeria and Bangladesh and keeps contact with Myanmar and Nepal, as well.

**Top:** Johan Bäckrud, the newly appointed Country Leader of TLM Sweden.

11–17 JAN

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Give thanks for the faithful support of donors over many years. Pray for new individual donors and for the success of activities and campaigns that aim to reach out to new supporters.

**TUE:** Thank God for the fruitful and good cooperation between TLM Sweden and the Swedish Government through the Swedish Mission Council. Pray for continued and increased project funding and support.

**WED:** Pray for increased support from churches and organisations. Pray also for new churches to cooperate with TLM Sweden. Thank God for the work of TLM ambassadors all over the country and for the increased group of presenters. Pray for new inspiration and open doors.

**THU:** Pray for a developed and strong cooperation between the TLM organisations in the Nordic countries.

**FRI:** Thank God for the Board of TLM Sweden and for the members' willingness to lead their work. Pray for wisdom in leadership and courage for new steps and initiatives.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for the staff team of TLM Sweden, for God's guidance and wisdom in the work. Pray for the right priorities and openness to new initiatives. Pray for inspiration, teamwork, and energy.

### KEY STAFF

Johan Bäckrud – Country Leader  
Rune Cederholm – Programme Coordinator  
Shelley Lado – Administration and Finance  
Allan Ekstedt – Nordic Hub coordinator  
Georg Lado – Chairman of the Board

## INDIA – COUNTRYWIDE

18–24 JAN

*Then shall you call on me, and you shall go and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*

Jeremiah 29:12



The Leprosy Mission was founded in 1874 as 'The Mission to Lepers' by an Irishman named Wellesley Cosby Bailey, in Ambala, India. Subsequently, in 1973, The Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI) was registered in India. TLMTI is the largest leprosy-focused non-governmental organisation in India and is headquartered in New Delhi.

The organisation works with people affected by leprosy, people with disabilities, and marginalised communities, especially women. TLMTI has a diverse set of programmes – Healthcare, Sustainable Livelihood, Community Empowerment, Advocacy and Communication, and Research and Training. TLMTI implements these programmes through 14 hospitals and two clinics, six vocational training centres, five residential care homes for elderly persons affected by leprosy, nine community empowerment projects, and a research laboratory, spread across 10 states of India.

TLMTI's vision is to see 'people affected by leprosy living with dignity in a transformed, inclusive society that has overcome leprosy'.

**Top:** Dr Mary Verghese, Executive Director, TLMTI.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** TLMTI has 14 hospitals and five old age homes (Snehalayas) across 10 states serving people affected by leprosy, disability and other marginalised people. Thousands of sick and suffering patients receive treatment through its outpatient and inpatient care each year. We pray for God's touch on the work, that healing may flow through and the love of Christ be demonstrated through the committed staff who serve.

**TUE:** Through the six Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) we provide skills training to children who are otherwise excluded from mainstream education. We pray that many such students would seek education in the VTCs, to support themselves and their families. We especially commit our female students to prayer, that they would break societal and cultural barriers.

**WED:** We thank God for the livelihood and empowerment projects that work among communities that have been isolated and marginalised. We praise Him for the leprosy-affected champions who advocate for the cause of people denied basic human rights. Pray that these communities will overcome their challenges and eliminate stigma and exclusion.

**THU:** We praise God for the numerous partnerships that TLMTI has developed over the past years. We commit our local, national, and global partners and the common passion we share to defeat leprosy and its consequences.

**FRI:** Our hearts are full of gratitude for the staff who are devoted to the vision and mission of TLMTI. They are our frontline warriors, serving sacrificially and prayerfully. We pray for His providence, peace and protection on their families.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for God's guidance in our work. Pray also that through TLMTI's work, people affected by leprosy will realise God's love and care.

**For a full list of staff in India, turn to p88**

## WORLD LEPROSY DAY

25 JAN–31 JAN



**W**orld Leprosy Day takes place on the last Sunday of January each year. It is organised by organisations of people affected by leprosy and leprosy-focused NGOs, including The Leprosy Mission. It is an opportunity to lift up the voices of people affected by leprosy throughout the world.

The day is marked in both countries with and without leprosy. In countries where leprosy is either non-existent or very rare, World Leprosy Day is marked by churches, NGOs, and leprosy champions who aim to raise awareness of the fact that leprosy still exists and it is still ruining lives.

In countries where leprosy still exists, communities and people affected by leprosy come together to raise awareness and host events that are aimed at reducing leprosy stigma and raising awareness of the disease. In many countries there is also good engagement from governments, who mark the day through events and contributions from ministers.

You can play your part through social media, by searching for The Leprosy Mission and sharing the messages that our teams are putting out.

**Top:** The UMOJA project in Mozambique, which is supported by ALEMO, one of the many leprosy peoples' associations for whom World Leprosy Day is an uniquely important day.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Far too many people believe that leprosy is a thing of the past, that it doesn't exist in the 21st Century. Pray that, by the end of the week, more people will hear about the presence of leprosy in the world and the urgent need to wipe the disease out.

**TUE:** In leprosy-affected communities this week is an important opportunity to take some of the stigma away from leprosy. Pray that this week will lead to greater inclusion for people affected by leprosy.

**WED:** This week is celebrated by Leprosy Peoples' Associations worldwide. These are associations of people affected by leprosy who want to support one another and work towards a society without discrimination against persons affected by leprosy. Pray for the strengthening of these important organisations through this week.

**THU:** A strong social media presence is a crucial part of the World Leprosy Day activities. Pray that people will be engaged by what they see on social media this week so that the World Leprosy Day materials will spread quickly across social media.

**FRI:** Leprosy won't be defeated if we don't have the funds to make that happen. World Leprosy Day is an important fundraising day for The Leprosy Mission. Please pray that people will be inspired to give this weekend and will continue that support into the future.

**SAT:** Pray for all of the churches that will mark World Leprosy Day tomorrow. Pray for God's blessings on those services and that the Holy Spirit will inspire church goers across the world to commit to finishing the work that Jesus started: ending leprosy.

**SUN:** Today is World Leprosy Day! Pray for open eyes and ears, for more people to hear about leprosy, and for more people to join the movement to end the disease for good. Then, when you're done praying, get sharing on social media!

## THE LEPROSY MISSION TRADING

1–7 FEB

*Trust GOD from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.*

Proverbs 3:5–6



**I**nspired by the love of Jesus, TLM Trading strives to show love and compassion towards people affected by leprosy, and to empower them to attain life in all its fullness by providing resources of money, awareness, new supporters and prayer for use by The Leprosy Mission.

TLM Trading, the trading arm of The Leprosy Mission, is a mail order company selling a wide range of gifts, greeting cards and books primarily to the Christian community. They produce three main catalogues per year, as well as operating a successful online shop which attracts thousands of customers each year. They also sell a range of Gifts for Life – 'virtual' gift cards which customers can buy to give to friends or to mark some special occasion and which directly benefit someone with leprosy. They include items such as school equipment, eye surgery or even the ever-popular goat!

### KEY STAFF

Chris Wickenden - Chair

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** TLM Trading publishes three main catalogues a year, our spring catalogue usually arrives by post around the start of February. Please pray that our customers will love the new range and place plenty of orders for cards, gifts and books. We pray that our Easter cards will sell especially well.

**TUE:** Pray for the small staff team at TLM Trading. Jo-Anne Thomson, our CEO for nine years, has moved on to become Head of Fundraising for TLM International. We pray that, by the time you read this, someone new will have been appointed to head up the work of TLM Trading. Pray that God will bring us the right person to grow our work and pray for Jo-Anne in her new role.

**WED:** Give thanks that, during the Covid-19 lockdown last year, TLM Trading's loyal customers turned to our website to order cards and gifts, meaning that our 2020 spring and summer campaigns far exceeded expectations. Praise the Lord.

**THU:** The artisans who create products for the TLM catalogues had a tough year last year. Many struggled during the lockdown, unable to buy food and necessities, let alone raw materials for their crafts. Pray that we will be able to sell more artisan products this year to help our artisans to get back on their feet.

**FRI:** Pray for our Board of Directors, who meet quarterly to give direction and guidance to the team. Pray also for our team of four freelance sales agents who visit Christian bookshops and other outlets to sell TLM branded books, cards and gifts. Pray that shops will continue to support our work in what is a difficult sales climate.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks for the astonishing success of the Gifts for Life range which raised an amazing £280,000 in 2020. Gifts of chickens, goats, school uniforms, water wells, sandals and more can be bought to give as a virtual gift to a friend while also blessing someone affected by leprosy. Pray for the team to find new ways to keep the range fresh and appealing.

**Top:** Leprosy-affected and disabled artisans, delighted to see their items in the TLM catalogue.



## MYANMAR

8–14 FEB



**T**LM Myanmar (TLMM) works to achieve zero leprosy transmission and ensure that people with disability and/or leprosy are able to influence Myanmar's society. Work takes place in Yangon, Taungoo, Mandalay, and Pakokku and includes leprosy activities and having stronger partnerships with the National Leprosy Control Programme and basic health infrastructures. The work aims to achieve the following:

- Improve leprosy knowledge, capacity, and early case detection
- Provide inclusion training to organisations, so people affected by leprosy can be better included
- Empower people to advocate for themselves and reduce barriers to their inclusion in society
- Provide special devices that are difficult to find within the local healthcare system (such as prosthesis, shoes, braces, wheelchairs)
- Improve referral mechanisms to specialist hospitals

TLM Myanmar partners with the Mawlamyine Christian Leprosy Hospital to deliver quality medical care and rehabilitation services, and with Christian Leprosy Mission Eastern Shan to reach remote and hilly regions. The team also works through churches so they can reach more people affected by leprosy.

### KEY STAFF

Dr Zaw Moe Aung – TLM Country Leader  
Dr Aung Htet – Head of Operations and Monitoring  
Dr Myat Wint Than – Head of Programmes Management  
Ms Kalay Tun – Finance Manager  
Ms Naw Say Say Phaw – Human Resource Manager  
Dr Hla Hla Aye – TLM Myanmar Board Chair

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for our seven Board members as they continue to serve and govern TLMM. Pray for them, as they are a new Board who took on a local governance role in 2020 (TLMM had been governed by TLM's Global Board until 2020).

**TUE:** Pray for TLMM's prosthesis, orthotics and orthopaedic shoes team as they work to sustain production and services that are vital for persons with disability. Their mobile workshop enables services to reach a large number of inaccessible communities. Pray that the construction of the workshop building, which is supported by World Servants, is successfully completed so that there will be no need to rent a venue.

**WED:** February to April will see the transition of Myanmar's 2nd parliament to the 3rd. Pray for elected officials and representatives as they assume their respective offices, serving the nation for five years. Pray for a peaceful transition.

**THU:** Due to Covid-19, 2020 saw TLMM move to using virtual platforms to reach more people affected by leprosy and with disability to maintain services for them. As we continue to make use of these tools, pray for more cost-effective solutions and for tools to be user-friendly and effective for all users.

**FRI:** Since 2019, TLMM has been working with 15 new churches, facilitating volunteers and congregation members to reach out to local communities, providing support and services for persons affected by leprosy and persons with disability. Please pray for these churches to be more serious about the inclusion of leprosy and disability in their worship programmes and increase their ability to provide support and services over the long term.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for our partners at Mawlamyine Christian Leprosy Hospital and Christian Leprosy Mission Eastern Shan. Their work is invaluable. Praise God for those teams and ask God to bless them and their work.

**Top:** The TLM Myanmar team praying with and for their new Board members.

## NORTHERN IRELAND

15–21 FEB

*Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.*

Psalms 89:14



**T**LM Northern Ireland have a staff team of four, alongside a dedicated and passionate team of over 200 volunteers. Together, staff and volunteers raise TLM's profile, and work to increase prayer and financial support.

Interaction with supporters takes various forms: speaking engagements in churches and community organisations, the INTouch supporter magazine, fundraising appeals, as well as a growing online presence.

The core of TLMNI's support is generated from the Christian community. Partnerships with churches and prayer is vital to all that we do. This year will see the commencement of the delivery of our new strategy, which seeks to significantly grow our supporter base and extend our reach across Northern Ireland, for both individual supporters and churches, whilst also strengthening existing relationships. During the year, there will be an effort to attract new donors through an increased digital presence, establish partnerships and secure new funding from grant making bodies.

### KEY STAFF

Joanne Briggs – TLM Country Leader  
Rebecca Parnell – Church Partnerships Officer  
Hazel Coulter – Database Administrator  
Joy Jamieson – Office & Finance Manager  
Fiona Davidson – Board Chairperson

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Give thanks for the generosity of supporters in Northern Ireland, particularly during difficult circumstances last year. Pray that God would bless them for their faithfulness and love towards people affected by leprosy. Pray that new supporters would connect and engage with TLM.

**TUE:** Give thanks for churches who faithfully support TLMNI. Pray that these relationships would strengthen and pray for God's guidance in seeking new opportunities to develop new church partnerships.

**WED:** Pray for the volunteer speaker team as they raise awareness and funds in churches. Pray God would provide more individuals to join this team to facilitate more engagements. Also, pray for TLMNI's Church Representatives as they keep their church informed and raise funds for TLM. Pray that, as individuals step down, God would provide replacements to help continue strong relationships with churches.

**THU:** Pray for Joanne Briggs, TLMNI Director and the staff team as they work and think creatively of new ways to raise awareness and funds and to engage with new supporters. Pray for the delivery of the new strategy (2021-2025) and that the right resources would be in place to enable growth and the greatest impact for leprosy-affected people.

**FRI:** Give thanks for the faithful service and Godly leadership of the Board of Trustees who govern TLMNI. Pray particularly for the recruitment of a new Board Chairperson, as Fiona Davidson steps down this year.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks for the opportunity to receive funding from Irish Aid. Pray this will continue to strengthen relationships to aid leprosy-affected people in Bangladesh. Pray that what we have learnt from this process will lead to increased institutional funding opportunities for TLMNI.

**Top:** The TLMNI team at their annual Christmas fair and coffee morning.



# Seeing through God's eyes

It is very recently that I have come to know that I have a sight problem. I don't know how it has been overlooked by doctors over so many years. I do not even know how I handled it, especially at night, identifying figures from distance.

Now I have a pair of glasses, and oh things are different! Now I can see birds in the sky from the office window, I can read telephone numbers of some shops through the office window, I now know that I could have enjoyed many scenes over the years.

We often sing "open the eyes of my heart Lord... I want to see you". Many questions come to my mind when I sing, often related to my experience of spiritual blindness. What are things that I see now and enjoy? Why did it take me so long to realise that I could not properly see? What effort should I make to see further?

In Numbers 22:32 we read Balaam was riding a donkey. God had tried to get Balaam's attention but he would not listen. So, God allowed the donkey to see spiritual things. Even when the donkey ran him into the wall, he just got angry at the donkey. But, when the donkey spoke to him, God opened his eyes spiritually. God got his attention; he saw the things that he was supposed to see, to listen to, to act upon...

We need to consider the following:

- There are wonderful things in the word of God and when we really see them, it changes us deeply and empowers us to bring love and holiness into our lives and ministries.
- It is impossible to see great things without God's help. When we read the Holy Bible without the help of the Holy Spirit, it is like reading other self-development books; we need to pray for God to help us to see and understand His word.

Serving the voiceless needs more guidance and leading from God so that we can best fight leprosy and practice our Mission's values.

I want you to join me in Paul's prayer in Ephesians 1:18, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you will know what is the hope of His calling ... " AMEN

**Beletshachew Tadesse**  
Country Leader of TLM Ethiopia

*Open my eyes that I may  
see wonderful things in  
your law.*

Psalm 119:18



## TIMOR LESTE

22–28 FEB



**T**LM Timor Leste's vision is to see an improvement in the quality of life of people affected by leprosy or disabilities and their families.

Timor Leste reached leprosy elimination (less than one case per 10,000 population) in 2011, however, over the past few years the new cases have been increasing. We continue to advocate to the Ministry of Health, saying that 'elimination' does not mean there is no leprosy in Timor Leste.

We work to find new cases for early treatment as every person affected by leprosy has value; each one of us is God's special work of art.

Our projects diagnose and treat leprosy, improve the socio-economic development of people affected by leprosy, and promote the inclusion of persons with disability in Timor Leste.

### SENIOR STAFF

Afliana Lisnahan (Nona) – Country Leader  
Francisco da Costa – Project Manager (ILS)  
Nelson da Silva – Project Coordinator (CBR)  
Joel Costa – Project Supervisor (RPD)  
Joaozina da Conceicao – Finance Manager  
Thalia Araujo – HR Manager

Top: TLM-TL Staff Retreat 2020.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for the inauguration of The Leprosy Mission Timor Leste (TLM-TL) as a local organisation. May God bless the process.

**TUE:** Pray for God's guidance and wisdom for TLM-TL's Board and staff as they implement their ambitious country strategy for 2021-2025.

**WED:** Pray for TLM-TL to be able to influence and support the Timor Leste Government's National Leprosy Programme strategy 2021-2025.

**THU:** Pray that TLM-TL's partnership with the church in Timor Leste will provide services and help in several parishes where there are people affected by leprosy and disabilities.

**FRI:** Pray for our community-based rehabilitation project, which supports 24 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in six Municipalities. The project has been extended for two years to allow the groups to run independently by the time we withdraw support.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for the CBR Network – Timor Leste, our implementing partner, may God guide them as they support the 24 SHGs to reach their goals. Pray for Steering Committee as they oversee the implementation of the Disability National Action Plan 2020-2024. Pray for the successful launch of the National Council for People with Disability.

## SWITZERLAND

1–7 MAR

*Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.*

2 Peter 3.18



**A**t TLM Switzerland, a team of seven operates from two offices, one in the German- and one in the French-speaking part of the country. A dedicated Board, partner churches, and institutions, as well as many loyal donors are committed to the vision of the Mission: leprosy defeated, lives transformed.

TLM Switzerland works in partnership with other Global Fellowship Members to implement projects in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Democratic Republic of Congo and Niger. Within Switzerland, the team raises awareness about leprosy and themes related to it, such as poverty, exclusion and development. It offers the opportunity to be involved in praying for and supporting people affected by leprosy and/or disabilities and their families.

The Leprosy Mission Switzerland is grateful to the dedicated people who have supported people affected by leprosy for decades.

### KEY STAFF

Markus Freudiger - Country Leader  
Anne-Claude Jonah - Leader in the French part  
Nadja Klarer - Fundraising and Communication  
Esther Kuny - Finance  
Christine Schneeberger - Administration  
Jan Kuny - Chairman

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** One of our roles is to be a "bridge" between the Swiss population and people affected by leprosy. We pray that the Lord will give us the wisdom to launch and run the "Zeroleprosy campaign" to raise awareness.

**TUE:** In accordance with our vision, we are grateful to God for all the lives transformed. Stories of people affected by leprosy are the base of our appeals. We are thankful to our colleagues in implementing countries who collect these stories and those in supporting countries who share fundraising supplies. Thank God for these great stories.

**WED:** Our team develops relationships with donors, churches, institutional funders, people working at our International Office, teams in our strategic countries, and people affected by leprosy. Let's pray that we will continue to communicate clearly and to work all together to reach our vision.

**THU:** In 2020, we applied to a foundation to receive funds to support people affected by leprosy in Niger over three years. We haven't received the full expected amount so we have to find other ways of funding the work. We thank God for the support we received and ask for his guidance to find new opportunities.

**FRI:** Our donors received a calendar looking at DR Congo. With the calendar's pictures and information, people may discover something about the realities in which the team of TLM Congo works day after day. Each month there is a Bible verse, so let's pray that God's word will speak to their heart.

**SAT/SUN:** Some donors sponsor staff at our Anandaban Hospital in Nepal (we call them transformation actors). It's a good opportunity for these supporters to be part of the chain of transformation of people affected by leprosy's lives. We thank God for their faithfulness and ask him to inspire other donors to sign up for sponsorship.

Top: Markus Freudiger with Placide Yengo and Didier Muhima, Project Managers in Kongo Central and South Kivu, respectively.

## SRI LANKA

8–14 MAR

... because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:16



TLM works through three partners in Sri Lanka: Alliance Development Trust (ADT), Kaveri Kala Manram (KKM), who are based in the north and east of the country, and the People's Forum for Change, which is an association of people affected by leprosy.

They work to raise awareness about leprosy through mobilising religious leaders and inspiring churches with a passion to serve people affected by leprosy. They work to repeal discriminatory laws, provide counselling for people affected by leprosy, and support the Government in identifying new cases of leprosy. On top of this, they develop agricultural livelihoods, provide safe water supplies, promote nutritious diets, train leprosy champions, and provide self-care training to prevent disability in leprosy-affected communities.

### KEY STAFF

#### ADT

Godfrey Yagarajah – CEO  
Praveen Gomez – Head of Programmes, Health  
John Anthony Williams – Programme Executive

#### KKM

Rev Joshua Sivagnanam – Director  
Dr Preman Jayaratnam – Chairman  
Miss Debora Jeeva Malar – Assistant Director

#### People's Forum for Change

Mr Amarasinga – President  
Shahana Thiyaalingam – Director  
Mrs Felshiya – Secretary

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for all the national initiatives planned by the Government Anti-Leprosy Campaign (ALC) and ADT. Pray that God will guide those who are involved in the work, to give them vision and strategy to defeat leprosy in Sri Lanka.

**TUE:** Pray for the research work in partnership between ALC, the University of Kelaniya, and ADT. Pray that God will bring the right people in to take this partnership forward and to see the right research papers coming out.

**WED:** Pray for success in repealing the outdated leprosy ordinance that places discriminatory restrictions on people affected by leprosy. Pray that God will bring what was started to completion.

**THU:** Please pray for the People's Forum for Change. The livelihoods of people affected by leprosy were badly affected by the economic impact of Covid-19. Pray that their small businesses would recover and that God would bless them with profitability.

**FRI:** KKM has started exporting powder made from green leaves - like moringa - that is used as a nutritional supplement and is grown by people affected by leprosy. Pray for the success of the marketing of these products by Mr Babu and his team, so that they can support many needy families.

**SAT:** Please pray for Hope Farm, which was started to raise income to provide long-term funds to support KKM's leprosy programmes. Pray for the success of its piggery, fish farm, poultry, tree nursery and goat rearing.

**SUN:** Pray for the efforts of our partners, interfaith leaders and the Government Anti-Leprosy Campaign as they collaborate to search for and treat new cases of leprosy in Sri Lanka. Pray especially that they may find the many child cases and see them treated before they develop long-term disability.

Top: A person with disability that has been caused by leprosy receives physiotherapy care.

## ENGLAND AND WALES

15–21 MAR

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

Philippians 4:6



The Leprosy Mission England & Wales is one of TLM's largest fundraising offices. Our work sees us raise money and support implementing partners with their work in the field.

Spring 2020 saw Covid-19 reach a critical point in the UK, requiring everyone associated with The Leprosy Mission England and Wales to find new ways of working effectively and safely. With so much uncertainty and new challenges each day, Peter Waddup, the National Director, felt it was important to dedicate a day to prayer in April, to seek God's guidance in these unsettled times.

Staff members, trustees and supporters joined together virtually for a day of praise, worship and prayer, interwoven with individual quiet time to listen to God. There was a tangible confirmation of how much God loves people affected by leprosy. We were reminded of how God had provided for the work of TLM through two world wars and the Spanish influenza outbreak of 1918. Through images and scripture, we were encouraged to trust that God would continue to heal and comfort people affected by leprosy thanks to the faithfulness of our supporters.

### KEY STAFF

Peter Waddup - Country Leader  
Sian Arulanantham - Head of Programmes and Policy  
Arminda O'Reilly - HR Manager  
Louise Timmins - Head of Fundraising  
Andy Lancaster - Chair of Trustees

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** We praise God that the work of The Leprosy Mission continues to be blessed with generous income from legacies. Give thanks for faithful supporters who choose to leave a gift in their Will. Their love lives on in the name of Jesus.

**TUE:** We pray for new ways to fund our work to help people affected by leprosy, and give thanks for new funding from Comic Relief to rebuild young people's self-worth and mental health in Nigeria. Please pray that the lives of many young people struggling with rejection and stigma will be transformed.

**WED:** We are humbled by how supporters continue to give, often sacrificially. We praise God for every one of them and for their valued prayers and financial support and pray for a blessing over them and their families.

**THU:** Income from Trusts, Corporates and governments is essential for projects that help people with leprosy. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought challenges to these sources of vital income. Please pray favour over ongoing applications and for new funding opportunities this year.

**FRI:** In June 2020, we heard we had been allocated a BBC Radio 4 appeal in April 2021. At our prayer day, a verse from Genesis spoke of reaping a hundredfold return at a time of famine. Praise God for this amazing opportunity. Let's pray with confidence that this will engage new supporters who will share our vision to see the end of leprosy.

**SAT/SUN:** Church partnerships are at the heart of our work and we are so thankful for both prayer and financial support. We give thanks for technology and opportunities to engage with churches online and pray that relationships remain strong. We pray too for opportunities to engage with new churches in the years ahead.

Top: Pastor Reuben, Peter Waddup, and Reverend Joshua in Sri Lanka. (© Ruth Towell)



# Kajari's story

Kajari has had leprosy since she was 10. She lives in Bangladesh and leprosy has caused her a lot of problems.

She has very short stubs instead of fingers and severe absorption on her feet, too. She has an ulcer on her foot and has received support from TLM's DBLM hospital in Bangladesh, to help her with self-care for her wound.

Despite having had leprosy from the age of 10, her symptoms weren't recognised for 30 years. At the age of 40 she was finally referred to DBLM hospital for treatment.

Although she's not had fingers on her hands for 20 years, she works as a cleaner in a school about a kilometre away from where she lives. It takes her around 45 minutes to walk there and she sweeps there every morning.

Because of the damage to her feet, she takes small steps and walks very carefully. She can often feel very despondent about her life,

"Sometimes I feel it's better to go away. If God takes me away, that is good... I did want a family. And a better job. But I lost hope of that ever happening when I lost my fingers."

Despite this, Kajari laughs a lot and is very cheeky, too. She has made friends with Asma and Anwara, whom she met at DBLM. They live near each other and often spend time

together. Kajari often makes mock grumpy comments which make the other two laugh hysterically. Kajari then cackles with laughter herself.

Just being around the three of them would make you smile, even if you didn't know what they were saying.



Photos © Tom Bradley



## NIGER

*I lift up my eyes to the mountains- where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heavens and earth.*

Psalms 121:1-2



**T**LM Niger implements projects in six regions. Activities include:

**Leprosy services:** which includes leprosy awareness raising in communities and the training and supervision of health workers in collaboration with National and Regional Ministries of Health.

**Community Development:** this includes grants/loans for income-generating activities such as agriculture and business, the provision of drinkable water, the building of ventilated latrines, and promoting hygiene in communities to prevent water borne diseases, as well as a housing project for homeless people affected by leprosy.

**Support for Danja Leprosy Referral Hospital:** this hospital offers medical and surgical care, physiotherapy, and self-care training for people with leprosy complications such as wounds, reactions and eye problems. There is also a socio-economic rehabilitation department that offers livelihood support as well as welfare for those who need it.

**Support for IDEA, an association of people affected by leprosy:** we support them through training in advocacy, empowerment, and creating community awareness.

**Partnership work:** we develop and build partnerships with local church leaders, disability NGOs and government institutions.

Top: The TLM Niger team.

22–28 MAR

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** There have been reductions in funding for project activities due to the impact of Covid-19. Pray that the Lord will help us to continue to reach out to meet the needs of people affected by leprosy and their communities in spite of the limited funds.

**TUE:** Praise God for the progress made by TLM Niger to self-governance, pray for wisdom and unity and grace for all the Board members, that they may continue to commit their time to support the work of the Mission in Niger.

**WED:** Pray for the TLM Niger team (Yohanna Abdou, Saratou Barage, Sani Hassane, Daouda Maoune, Ichaya Garba, and Bunmi Oluloto). Pray for grace to cope with the high demands of work and responsibilities, for wisdom to relate to other implementing partners and our beneficiaries, for God's protection during field trips, and for good health.

**THU:** In Niger security is a challenge; the country borders are very risky, many soldiers have been killed in the past by terrorists. Pray for lasting peace and pray for wisdom for the Government of Niger so they can find a long-term solution to the problem of insecurity.

**FRI:** Danja hospital is in need of a leader who can bring about positive change and develop a strategy that will help sustain the centre. Pray that God will provide the right person.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for Bunmi Oluloto, the Country Leader of TLM Niger, and his family (Loveth, Goodness, Favour, and Blessing) that the Lord will continue to grant them grace to cope with the work and challenges of living in Niger (they are originally from Nigeria).

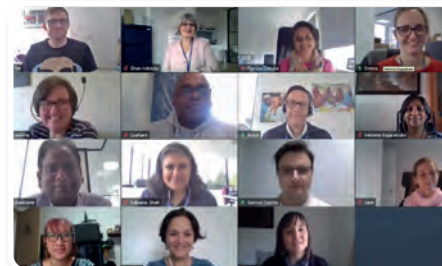
### KEY STAFF

Iro Sani - TLM Niger Chairman  
Bunmi Oluloto - TLM Country Leader  
Ichaya Garba - TLM Niger Office Administrator  
Abdul Yohanna - TLM Niger Programme Manager  
Saratou Barage - TLM Niger Technical Advisor  
Sani Hassan - TLM Project Officer

## THE LEPROSY MISSION INTERNATIONAL 29 MAR–4 APR

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*

Philippians 4:4



**T**he Leprosy Mission International brings together the Global Fellowship (see p8) by leading, inspiring, facilitating, and enabling our Members and Affiliates to defeat leprosy and transform lives.

**International Office:** A team of about 20 people, based in Brentford, West London, with some staff working remotely from home. Headed by Brent Morgan, the International Director, we support TLM offices and programmes around the world in a wide variety of work including strategic planning, organisational development, safeguarding, finance, HR, programmes, research, advocacy, communications, fundraising, and monitoring and evaluation.

**International Board:** Our Board consists of twelve people from across the Global Fellowship. Guided by our values of compassion, justice, integrity, inclusion and humility, the Board and International Office exists so that the Members of the Global Fellowship THRIVE (feel Trusted, Heard, Respected Included, Valued and Energised).

As a Christ-centred team, we pray together each day and the verse above, from Philippians, certainly resonates with this team.

### SENIOR STAFF

Brent Morgan - International Director  
Clara Volpi - Head of Operations Support  
Jannine Ebenso - Head of Quality Assurance  
Jo-Anne Thomson - Head of Fundraising Development  
Damaris Villanueva - Head of People  
Gladstone Worthington - Head of Finance

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Last year was a challenging one for the International Office, with changes in our Senior Leadership Team immediately before the Covid-19 pandemic. Thank God for the people, technology and funds He provided so we could continue our work (albeit in a different way) through a tumultuous year. Praise Him for the new skills and ways of working we have learnt as a result.

**TUE:** The International Office is taking more steps to care for our environment. We have looked at offsetting our carbon footprint whilst also cutting down on everything from the big (flights) to the small (printing). Pray that through this work we will continue to become better caretakers of God's creation.

**WED:** In 2020, we welcomed two new people to our Senior Leadership Team: Clara Volpi (Head of Operations Support) and Jo-Anne Thomson (Head of Fundraising Development). Join us in thanking God for these wonderful team members and pray that He will guide them through their roles.

**THU:** Our team is required to do a lot of travelling to support the work of the Global Fellowship. Pray that our staff will be kept safe when they are on their travels and that the work they do while they are away from home will be fruitful.

**FRI:** Please pray for Brent and the International Board as they provide leadership to both the International Office and the Global Fellowship. Ask God to guide them to make wise decisions that will lead us towards our goal of leprosy defeated and lives transformed.

**SAT/SUN:** The International Office gathers together to pray every day. We know that this time is a blessing, so join us in thanking God for this opportunity and pray that He will continue to encourage and sustain us through this time.

Top: Like teams across the world, our office spent much of 2020 meeting online, just like this.



## DENMARK

*Lord, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of distress.*

Isaiah 33: 2



**T**LM Denmark focuses on supporting work for leprosy-affected people in Bangladesh. The work is, for the most part, directed towards rehabilitation and empowerment to reintegrate leprosy patients and persons with disability into their local societies. We hope to be able to continue and extend this approach to more areas in Bangladesh.

TLM Denmark has a long lasting commitment to the comprehensive leprosy work that is centred at the Danish Bangladesh Leprosy Mission Hospital in Nilphamari and hope still to be able to support the work there.

**Top:** TLM Denmark's Chairman, Jørgen Andersen.

5–11 APR

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray that leprosy is not forgotten in a world where there is so much communication on so many topics.

**TUE:** Pray that we can be a tool to empower leprosy-affected people in their lives so that they can sustain themselves.

**WED:** Pray that leprosy affected people will see a better future through fellowship with each other in a community that works together to lift each other up.

**THU:** Pray that funds can be maintained so that we can continue to support leprosy projects and work for people in vulnerable positions.

**FRI:** Pray that we can sustain a fellowship in Scandinavia that focuses on the eradication of leprosy and on supporting the vulnerable in the world, also so that funds can continue to be available for the work.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for the volunteers at TLM Denmark and for their families. Thank God for those in Denmark who give their time and money to support people affected by leprosy.

### KEY STAFF

Jørgen Andersen, Chairman  
Jens Møller Pedersen, Vice Chairman and cashier

## MOZAMBIQUE

12–18 APR



**T**he Leprosy Mission in Mozambique works in close cooperation with the Health Department in support of the Leprosy Control project in the province of Cabo Delgado. There are also strong links with community partners including community volunteers, ALEMO (a leprosy peoples' organisation), and self-care groups.

A network of local churches undergoing integral mission training is slowly growing and is increasingly contributing to advocacy initiatives and greater awareness of leprosy. We have strong engagement at the community level, which gives us good local knowledge and traction, but requires many days away from families for the team.

During 2021 we need to consolidate our core strategies and interventions while developing our funding framework and investing in some more research and development for future innovations.

In collaboration with the Health Department partners we hope to implement a Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) programme. Once a new patient has been diagnosed, we actively screen household members and neighbours of the patient and examine them. Symptomatic persons are promptly referred for multi-drug therapy (MDT) and asymptomatic contact persons are offered a post-exposure prophylaxis (single dose rifampicin), to reduce their risk of developing leprosy by 50-60 percent.

### KEY STAFF

Dr Arie de Kruijff – TLM Country Leader  
Sr Belarmino Reich – ALEMO and Iphiro Yohoolo Project Manager  
Sr Armindo Jorge – Prevention of Disabilities/Leprosy Control Project Manager  
Sr Culaire Luis – Human Resources Manager  
Sr. João Américo - IT  
Sr. Vasco Fernando Maruquiere – Driver

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Leprosy management committees, made up of local people, are increasingly taking the initiative to find new cases in their area and to coordinate leprosy services. We pray that God would bless them with unity and joy as they work towards zero leprosy.

**TUE:** We will be implementing a new PEP initiative in the Chiure district during 2021. We pray for good cooperation between all partners and that all people who are at risk of catching leprosy following prolonged contact with an infectious person can be identified and screened.

**WED:** In an effort to improve health education and to stimulate local learning, community media centres are being set up in some pilot villages. We pray that the community would find benefit in these and that messages reach those in need.

**THU:** We are thankful for God's provision for us over the years of the financial resources that we need to keep the work going. We continue to pray for His guidance, gracious provision and rich blessing so that we can reach further and deeper into communities affected by leprosy.

**FRI:** A violent insurgency has displaced hundreds of thousands, including many people affected by leprosy. We pray that God would bring about peace and transformation and that the local church would rise up and shine as they reach out to refugees and people in need.

**SAT/SUN:** The UMOJA church mobilisation initiative is mobilising churches to reach out to communities affected by leprosy in prayer and practical ways. We pray for greater growth of vision and practical love for people affected by leprosy.

**Top:** Elisa saw the absence of a health post in her village and saw how this situation was difficult for the community, particularly women in labour. She encouraged her community to build a health post for the community to use. Now her community has access to basic health services.

# The least we can do...

One of the most humbling privileges we have is to serve one another. In TLM Trading we are honoured to serve people affected by leprosy by helping to provide a livelihood for leprosy-affected artisans who make wonderful handmade products for our shops.

Often these artisans live from day to day; whatever they earn that day feeds their families that day. They exemplify the well-known line of The Lord's Prayer "Give us this day our daily bread". So why is it, in the 21st Century, that so many workers can be vulnerable to exploitation: being over-worked and underpaid? Why is it, in the 21st Century, that there is a need for 'Fair Trade Organisations'?

As Christians, the Bible shows us that 'Fair Trade' is the least we can do.

"Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due." Romans 4:4

This verse from Romans makes it clear that the worker has worked and therefore earned their wages; it's not for us to make it seem like a gift; a gift would be giving the worker MORE than they had earned. Yet, many people today are underpaid and exploited.

This same verse is set in the context of God's amazing grace for us, which is a gift that we could never earn or deserve.

"You shall pay them their wages daily before sunset, because they are poor and their livelihood depends on them." Deuteronomy 24:15

The verse from Deuteronomy almost foreshadows the words of The Lord's Prayer. By explaining that the people being referred to are 'poor', reminds us that there are many 'rich' people who do not have to live from day to day. 'Rich' here does not only refer to the mega-wealthy, but to people like most of us, who do not live from hand to mouth.

So, that means most of the world, including us, would be counted amongst the 'rich'. It therefore shines a spotlight on all of us, calling us to examine our hearts, examine our purchases, and choose to be more Christ-like. We could choose to give more than the worker has earned, although we could never be as bountiful and generous as God is to us. However, the least we can do is ensure that 'Fair Trade' becomes the norm, not the exception. Why? Because as Christians we are called to do so.

This video shows why serving our artisans is such a privilege: [youtube.com/watch?v=w7jel2irLHY](https://youtube.com/watch?v=w7jel2irLHY)

**Jo-Anne Thomson**

Head of Fundraising Development at TLM's International Office and former CEO of The Leprosy Mission Trading.

*Now to the one who works,  
his wages are not counted  
as a gift but as his due.*

Romans 4:4





# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

19–25 APR

*Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.*

Joshua 1:8



Our team in DR Congo is committed to ending leprosy in this large and diverse country.

In order to achieve a significant decrease in the transmission of leprosy, TLM Congo is improving the capacity of several actors and partners in the field. Their hope is that no one will be left behind in our fight against leprosy.

The team in DR Congo work on various health projects and community-based rehabilitation projects, as well as working with Disabled Peoples' Organisations and OPALCO, the Association of People Affected by Leprosy. They have also recently expanded and strengthened their research work.

The team is working alongside churches and local associations of people affected by leprosy to encourage decision makers to make health services available to all.

**Top:** Our team working with one of the many remote communities in this large country. Their aim is to ensure all new leprosy cases get the medical support they need.

## PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Give thanks to God because TLM Congo has developed a new five year country strategy (2021 – 2025). Pray for its implementation and success.

**TUE:** TLM Congo is working to empower people affected by leprosy in DRC, helping them to clearly express their voices through a strong national organisation that will advocate and shape health service policies toward leprosy and disabilities.

**WED:** Pray specifically for God's wisdom for our politicians and for more honesty from Multinationals that exploit the country's minerals. Pray also for an end to the endless conflicts in the eastern part of the country.

**THU:** Pray for the Government Leprosy Programme staff as they face various challenges throughout the country. Pray for provincial and health district managers, that they will stay innovative and will be able to learn useful lessons from the challenges they face.

**FRI:** The work of TLM in the field depends on the presence of our agents on site. Pray for them as they face significant challenges with corruption, poverty and transportation on a daily basis.

**SAT/SUN:** We praise God for the availability and willingness of the Churches of Christ in Congo and the pastors who support the work of TLM in Congo. Pray for good coordination of energies and good will.

## KEY STAFF

Mr Louis Paluku Sabuni – Country Leader,  
Mr Christian Bulambo Bisimwa – Head of Finance and IT  
Mrs Doris Mukelengu Ndombe – Admin Officer and Safeguarding  
Dr Jacob Kadima Kabamba – Medical Advisor  
Mr Raphael Mulamba Mbuyamba – Project Development Officer  
Mr Didier Muhima – Project Manager for South Kivu and Maniema and HR advisor

# NEPAL

26 APR–2 MAY

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

1 Peter 4:10



The Leprosy Mission Nepal (TLMN) started in 1957 with the establishment of Anandaban Hospital, on the outskirts of Kathmandu. Since then, TLMN, now a local NGO with its own Board, has been working in partnership with the Government of Nepal to provide specialist tertiary care and technical support for leprosy control programmes.

Our development interventions focus on the areas of health, capacity building, education, community development and rehabilitation, advocacy, and research, as well as working towards the inclusion of people affected by leprosy, disability and other neglected tropical diseases.

Our FOUND (Fueling Opportunities to end Unemployment for Nepalis with Disability) Project aims to support 2,500 unemployed skilled people with disabilities from five economic hub districts of Nepal to find and thrive in formal or self-employment.

**Top:** The ongoing construction of TLM Nepal's state of the art Trauma Centre. Construction is due to be completed by August 2021.

## PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Let us pray that TLM Nepal will succeed in implementing the new Country Strategy and climb the ladders of sustainability in this strategic period.

**TUE:** TLM Nepal is a registered NGO, governed by its own Board since 2005, working alongside TLM's Global Fellowship and other partners. Please pray for the Board Members, led by Mr Ashok Adhikari, along with eight other members from different walks of life.

**WED:** Please pray for the successful renewal of our project funding and implementation agreements.

**THU:** Our HEAL Nepal Project targets the successful integration of Lymphatic Filariasis and leprosy services. Pray for continued success for HEAL Nepal. Also pray for the successful training of health workers, medical officers, and female community health volunteers; as well as the skin camps in HEAL Nepal districts.

**FRI:** Please pray for the Government leaders and civil servants, so that they will develop proper systems and that good working environments will be created.

**SAT/SUN:** FOUND Project: Pray for the successful implementation of FOUND activities and empowerment of people with disabilities in different districts of Nepal. Pray for its leadership and for the entire team.

## KEY STAFF

Mr Shovakhar Kandel - Country Director  
Dr Jemish Acharya - Programme Manager  
Mr Bharat Raj Pande - Financial Controller & Analyst  
Mr Chiranjivi Sharma - Director (FOUND Project)  
Dr Gajananda Bhandari - Director (HEAL Nepal Project)  
Mr Ashok Adhikari - Chairman of TLM Nepal Board



# Charles' story

Charles lives on an island on Lake Kivu, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He married his wife, Mariam, when he was 19. More than 50 years later, they are still together. But, 37 years into the marriage, Charles developed health problems that were eventually diagnosed as leprosy.

Up until this point he had been a strong young man. He cared and provided for his family of 11 children. When he became sick with leprosy he was very unwell, but still had to walk for nine hours to access his local hospital at the end of each month to get the medication he needed.

Although Charles did what he could to tackle his leprosy diagnosis, he unfortunately still encountered problems,

"Certain parts of my body swelled, I lost my fingers and toes. My whole body started to undergo changes. Having lost the use of my feet, the only way for me to move about was dragging myself around on my bottom. Ulcers started to appear on my bottom because of the stones on my plot.

"As soon as these problems appeared, many people, even some of my relatives, started to avoid me. One of my daughters was even rejected by her husband, who claimed that she might contaminate him. I felt useless because I lost all hope."

Not long after this, our team in DR Congo arrived to work on a project. Thanks to them,

*"Today I still cannot walk, but thanks to this team, I feel useful again."*

Charles had surgery to treat his wounds and he received tools to help him in his everyday life. He received sandals for his hands, which had been damaged through dragging him around on his bottom. He also received a hat and a water basin so that he can clean his wounds. They also taught Charles and Mariam how they can care for his wounds so they would heal and not become infected.

"Today I still cannot walk, but thanks to this team, I feel useful again... There is a man from The Leprosy Mission who visits my house regularly. I told him that the stones at the entrance of my house were the cause of my sores on my bottom and he had a ramp built. Since then, the sores on my bottom have disappeared.

"I am old, but my wish is that my wife and I will prosper thanks to the three turkeys we have been given by The Leprosy Mission. This will allow me to eat better, buy clothes, and get treatment if I get sick."





## SOUTH AFRICA

3–9 MAY

*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

James 5:16



The Leprosy Mission South Africa raises funds to run leprosy programmes, providing free treatment for leprosy patients who experience leprosy-related complications, and training health personnel to recognise leprosy in its early stages. We also run RampUp, which promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities in the church.

**Top:** Agostino developed leprosy as a young man and was perilously close to losing his sight due to leprosy. Now he is cured and, each morning before work, Agostino tends his vegetables, which he sells to the local community. Leprosy has impaired the sensation in his hands, but hasn't robbed him of his green fingers! He attends a local church and is filled with a Godly passion for the welfare of other people affected by leprosy in his area.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** The Leprosy Mission runs monthly leprosy clinics at Prince Mshiyeni Memorial Hospital, Durban; and Edendale Hospital, Pietermaritzburg in the province of kwaZulu Natal. The clinics are supervised by Elena van den Berg. Pray for wisdom for Elena as she responds to the many needs of the patients at these busy clinics.

**TUE:** Gundula Koethnig supervises the care of leprosy patients in the province of Mpumalanga. Give thanks for Gundula's loving care for these patients and pray for her as she inspires clinic personnel with her passion for people affected by leprosy.

**WED:** Goodman Qhosholo, based in Mthatha in the Eastern Cape, travels extensively on poor roads to visit isolated leprosy patients and to teach clinic personnel how to recognise and treat leprosy. Pray for his safety on these long journeys and give thanks for his tireless commitment to the welfare of his patients.

**THU:** RampUp is a project of The Leprosy Mission, promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities in churches. Pray for churches to be energised by the vision to reach out to people in their communities who are "shut in" due to disabilities.

**FRI:** Give thanks for our wonderfully generous supporters, who faithfully stood by The Leprosy Mission during the pandemic of 2020. Pray that our ranks of supporters will grow during 2021 as people respond to the needs of leprosy sufferers.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks for the many churches who so generously and faithfully support the work of The Leprosy Mission. Pray that more congregations will partner with The Leprosy Mission during 2021 to help us expand our work to un-reached communities.

### KEY STAFF

Peter Laubscher – Executive Director  
Theo de Villiers – Deputy Director  
Gerhard Fourie – Chair

## SINGAPORE & SOUTH KOREA

10–16 MAY



### Singapore

The Singapore Leprosy Mission (TSLM) is a support group (established in 2004) that raises financial support for TLM, encourages people to pray for the work and raises awareness in Singapore of leprosy and The Leprosy Mission. Their vision is 'A world without leprosy' and their mission statement is 'Restoring Health, Rehabilitating Life, Restructuring Employability, Resourcing Support'. In recent years they have been raising support for Anandaban Hospital, Nepal, where major repairs are needed following the 2015 earthquakes in addition to the ongoing leprosy work. They are now raising funds for Myanmar.

### South Korea

Although there are very few new cases of leprosy detected each year in the Republic of Korea (South Korea), there are still elderly people living with leprosy-related disabilities. As Korea rapidly changes into an aging society, the number of elderly people who are not protected economically and emotionally is increasing. TLM Korea is committed to protecting and treating elderly people affected by leprosy or disability through the Jesus Hospital in Daegu, which specialises in dermatology services and any cases of leprosy. An adjacent nursing home protects and cares for elderly people affected by leprosy, and other low-income elderly and disabled people.

**Top:** A spring season outing with TLM Korea's nursing home residents.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### Singapore

**MON:** Thank God for the dedication of the Singapore Leprosy Mission Board. Pray that the directors will have wisdom, strength and God's guidance as they promote the work of the Mission.

**TUE:** TSLM's chairman, Dr George Seow, sends out a regular 'Word from the Chairman' newsletter to inform donors and ask for funds. Pray that God will use the newsletter to speak to people's hearts and they would be inspired to give.

**WED:** May is a month of celebration in Singapore, where various religious festivals are celebrated. Singapore is a melting pot of different cultures and religions. It's a nation that lives harmoniously, but prayer is always needed for grace and acceptance of each other's differences so that we can live as one nation.

#### South Korea

**THU:** Give thanks to God for the Chairman Mr Allun Cho and all TLM Korea's board members and staff. Pray for wisdom and health as they undertake leprosy work in Jesus Hospital and nursing home for the elderly.

**FRI:** Pray for the stabilisation of the social and psychological situation in South Korea, which is exacerbated by many tensions with their neighbours in North Korea and economic tensions with Japan.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks for all the work of TLM Korea, both with people affected by leprosy and with other disabled or otherwise disadvantaged elderly people. Pray it will continue to run smoothly and that all those using their services would be blessed and live in peace and security.

### KEY TEAM

#### Singapore

Rev Dr George Seow – Chairman  
Ms Lam Yan Yan – Recording Secretary  
Rev Milton Lazarus – Committee Member

#### South Korea

Mr Jaewoong Choi – Programme Coordinator  
Mr Allun Cho – Chairman

*And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.*

Matthew 18 : 5



TLM Chad works towards the reduction of the transmission of leprosy and leprosy-related disability, as well as working against discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and other disabled and excluded persons. TLM Chad works on different projects and programmes in close collaboration with the Ministries of Health and Social Welfare and the National Leprosy Control Programme.

TLM Chad works in two provinces – the Guéra and Salamat. TLM Chad's programme activities are focussed on:

1. Capacity building: (on the job) training of health staff in leprosy and disability prevention, supervision of health staff, training of Disabled Peoples' Organisations (DPO) on the road to good governance and empowerment
2. Awareness raising: developing community awareness of the signs and symptoms of leprosy so as to achieve early case detection and awareness about the rights of persons living with disability.

#### SENIOR STAFF

Bunmi Oluloto – Country Leader  
Geeske Zijp – Programme Manager  
Marc Djibrine Victor – Administrator  
Zakaria Mahamat – DPO Trainer  
Ahmat Abderaman – TLM Resource Person for the Guéra  
Abdel Djellil Hassane – Driver/Office Assistant  
Hissein Dagache – Chairman TLM Support Group

#### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Please pray for TLM Chad's new project in the Salamat. Pray that its population may understand TLM's vision and work together with the team towards the reduction of leprosy and disability. Pray for wisdom for Geeske Zijp as she leads the new work in Salamat while continuing to oversee the activities in the Guéra.

**TUE:** Pray for the leprosy supervisors in the Guéra, that they may continue to do their work with enthusiasm under direct supervision of the provincial supervisor and the medical officers.

**WED:** Let's thank God for Ahmat Abderaman, our TLM resource person in the Guéra, equally responsible for TLM Chad's community-based rehabilitation work with disabled children and adolescents. May God help him to develop in his new role and equip him with all the necessary skills for his responsibilities.

**THU:** Please pray for the brand new physiotherapy service that TLM initiated in Am Timan hospital. Pray that it may be of benefit to the people of the Salamat and that hidden children with disabilities may be brought forwards by their parents for appropriate care and attention.

**FRI:** Pray for the newly trained physiotherapist that will open the physiotherapy room in Am Timan. Pray that he may develop good professional skills and find a merited place amongst the hospital staff.

**SAT/SUN:** The DPO work in the Guéra is growing while the DPO work in the Salamat needs to be started from grassroots level. Pray for Zakaria Mahamat, TLM's DPO trainer, especially when he travels long distances to train and accompany them on the road to good governance.

**Top:** Idriss has been receiving physiotherapy through TLM, as well as crutches and school support. His mother, Annoki, received micro-credit support after her husband sent her away.



Habsou and Mariama are a mother and daughter from Niger Republic. Habsou is from a poor nomadic family who moved around to find food. She's now 57 and contracted leprosy aged 5. Although she was recommended to go to Danja hospital, her family told her not to go because of the stigma surrounding leprosy.

She was hidden away in a hut for four years so that she didn't contaminate other children and wouldn't be mocked by them.

"Leprosy took away my dignity and I self-harmed before finally coming to Danja hospital for treatment."

She was 13 when she finally arrived at Danja. After receiving treatment for several years she said she was afraid to go home and face more rejection. She refused to leave Danja so The Leprosy Mission paid for a basic house so she could remain. Leprosy has disabled Habsou; she has lost her fingers and toes and has only been able to survive by begging. In 2017 she

also lost her sight, so now she is unable to do anything unaided.

Habsou's daughter, Mariama, is married to a leprosy-affected man. She didn't go to school, but when she was older she attended a TLM-funded adult literacy class where she learnt to read and write.

She also attended a TLM-funded sewing class and is now a skilled seamstress who makes clothes that she sells. She's working hard to ensure her own daughter, Saoude, finishes school and fulfils her dream of becoming a nurse.

The Leprosy Mission has also provided Mariama and her family with a toilet and some livestock to enable them to be self-sustaining.

By supporting and praying for The Leprosy Mission, you've helped us to provide this family in Niger with dignity and hope for the future.



## FRANCE

24–30 MAY

*...and even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.*

Galatians 4:14



The Leprosy Mission France (Mission Lepre) moved into a more online way of working during the Covid-19 pandemic. We will further develop our digital media work, as well as continuing our "In Action" magazine.

TLM France participates each year in meetings with the Federation of Francophone Evangelical Missions (FMEF) and the Association in the Service of Humanitarian Action (ASAH), two associations which bring together Christian missionary organisations. This is a great opportunity for spiritual encouragement for all involved and a good way to stay in touch with other Christian associations and reflect on the challenges of fundraising.

Top: Pascal Machefer, Country Leader of TLM France.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** France has experienced, in recent months, some very important social movements, which affects the life of the country and divides the citizens. Let us pray that serenity will return to hearts.

**TUE:** Covid-19 profoundly changed the lifestyle of the French. Churches risk being demotivated. Pray that Christians will continue to give for those affected by leprosy.

**WED:** Pray that we will find young donors who are glad to contribute to the work of The Leprosy Mission as faithfully as our older donors have done for many years.

**THU:** Pray for a renewed interest in The Leprosy Mission's work within the evangelical world in France.

**FRI:** Pray that staff, Board members, and volunteers of TLM France can visit churches to present the work of the Mission. Pray that these visits will be successful and bring new support for TLM.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray with us for a rising up of young people who want to see an end to leprosy in their lifetimes.

### KEY STAFF

Pascal Machefer - Country leader  
Carlen Fotso - Finance

## INDIA – COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION 31 MAY–6 JUN



The age-old stigma associated with leprosy leads to the social exclusion of people affected by the disease. They are ostracised and often excluded from community gatherings and prevented from accessing community resources. This results in people affected by leprosy not being able to participate in the economic, social and political life of the society in which they live.

To remedy this situation, The Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI) adopts a broad-spectrum approach, ranging from local interventions to strategies for policy reform. Self-help and other groups facilitate community empowerment and help many households to earn additional income through livelihood opportunities and thus have an improved quality of life.

TLMTI also provides educational scholarships for schooling, graduate, postgraduate and professional studies to children who have a background of leprosy. Their adult literacy programme helps people affected by leprosy and those with disabilities gain functional literacy. This helps in reducing barriers and increasing their participation in community-level decision-making.

Top: Members of a self-help group in Chhattisgarh showcasing their income generating activities.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** TLMTI is working with more than 700 champions affected by leprosy and continues to identify and build more champions. They take the lead in driving social change through awareness raising and advocating for the rights of people affected by leprosy. Pray for God's strength for the champions so that they can continue working in the face of the many challenges they face daily.

**TUE:** TLMTI has developed and trained many groups of people affected by leprosy. They support each other and advocate for the rights of people affected by leprosy. Pray that they stand united in identifying, highlighting, and addressing all types of discrimination in their communities.

**WED:** Children affected by leprosy face discrimination because of stigma and lose the motivation to study and end up dropping out of school or show less interest in studies. TLMTI provides educational support to these children and mentors them to continue their education. Pray that they develop their potential and become responsible citizens.

**THU:** TLMTI has formed and strengthened many grassroots level groups, primarily of people affected by leprosy. They play a key role in empowering the communities TLMTI works with. Pray for the growth and sustainability of these groups.

**FRI:** Pray for the strengthening of TLM's partnerships with government and local organisations. Pray that they join hands with TLMTI in fighting leprosy-related stigma and discrimination.

**SAT/SUN:** Our staff work tirelessly to implement these programmes. Pray for God's guidance, wisdom, and protection for all community empowerment project staff. Pray for the advocacy initiatives undertaken to ensure that the health sector does not discriminate on the basis of leprosy and that healthcare will be local and affordable.

For a full list of staff in India, turn to p88



The Leprosy Mission Sudan works closely with the Federal Ministry of Health and Khartoum State Ministry of Health to defeat leprosy and other NTDs, as well as bringing greater awareness of leprosy and its consequences.

TLM Sudan also partners with the Episcopal Church of Sudan and the Aburoff Clinic to provide leprosy control, wound care, protective footwear, and eye care. The Aburoff Clinic is Sudan's only specialist leprosy centre and people travel from across Sudan for treatment.

The team is working towards zero leprosy transmission within Sudan and is looking to partner with more persons affected by leprosy and NTDs as they also work to tackle discrimination and disability.

**Top:** Seela cleans a leprosy ulcer at the Aburoff Clinic in Khartoum.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for the safety of our staff, John and Seela, and their families in Sudan. Pray for them as they run the Aburoff clinic and care for patients. Pray for their internet connections and for their ability to access digital platforms like Skype so that they can coordinate with their partners nationally and internationally.

**TUE:** Pray for the recruitment of a new coordinator for our work in Sudan. It can sometimes be difficult to find the right hands to take on this work and we continue to search for the right person in faith.

**WED:** Pray for our partner, the Episcopal Church of Sudan. They own the Aburoff Clinic and work closely with us to care for people affected by leprosy in Sudan. Thank God for their commitment to this work and pray for its continued success.

**THU:** Pray for the patients at the Aburoff Clinic. They often have to travel long distances to seek diagnosis and treatment. Pray that their treatment will be successful.

**FRI:** Following a coup d'état in 2019, Sudan is undergoing a transition to democracy. Please pray for the country during these fragile times. Pray for a peaceful transition and for the safety of Sudanese citizens, particularly those affected by leprosy who are so often among the most vulnerable in society.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for our ongoing work with the Sudanese Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs. Please pray for God's blessing on these partnerships, especially through these delicate years in Sudan as they undergo a transition to democracy.

### KEY STAFF

Ms Seela Kajo Shalluka – Aburoff Clinic Manager  
Mr John Kuku – Khartoum State Leprosy Supervisor

*The name of the LORD is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.*

Proverbs 18:10



### Papua New Guinea

The Leprosy Mission Papua New Guinea's (TLM-PNG) role is to support the Government's National Leprosy Elimination Programme to ensure people affected by leprosy are detected and treated with available and accessible leprosy treatment. There were 577 new cases of leprosy found in 2019. TLM-PNG has 3 projects - in livelihoods, health and leprosy detection.

### Bougainville

TLM New Zealand works in partnership with the Autonomous Bougainville Government and the NZ Aid Programme to implement the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme (BHCP). Covering 95 percent of Bougainville's population, this exemplar preventative health model improves health, hygiene and governance practices in a community-based and owned programme. The Leprosy Coordinator ensures a continued focus on detecting, diagnosing and treating leprosy, despite challenging terrain and limited health infrastructure, through the project's Community Facilitators and Village Health Volunteers.

### KEY STAFF

#### Papua New Guinea

Natalie Smith – Country Leader  
Merilyn Gairo – SLD Project Manager  
Malinda Marvin – SHLK Project Coordinator  
Mega Menuwo – Finance Manager

#### Bougainville

Neil Toura – HR and Administration Manager  
John Kopi – Monitoring and Training Manager  
Jasleen Kler – TLM NZ Programme Manager

### PRAYER POINTS

#### Bougainville

**MON:** Please pray for the continued safety of all staff members and village health volunteers. They often travel long distances to remote communities in bad weather and rough terrain. Praise God for their devotion and heart for leprosy-affected individuals and families.

**TUE:** Pray that the partnership between BHCP and the Government's Department of Health will be strengthened.

#### Papua New Guinea

**WED:** Praise God for the Western Province Project, funded by TLM Australia. It is now in its third and final year. Even though it has been challenging to implement this in a Covid-risk border province, the increased numbers of new leprosy cases found in the province indicates success with the health worker training.

**THU:** Pray for TLM-PNG's Country Office staff as they coordinate the projects and pursue new funding opportunities.

**FRI:** Praise God for the successful start of our second New Zealand Aid funded Strengthening Health in the Communities project. Pray for the 25 communities involved in the project as they learn how to manage health better within their own communities.

**SAT/SUN:** This is the fifth year of the New Zealand Aid funded Sustainable Livelihood Development project. Pray for the project participants affected by leprosy and disability, that they will continue to implement their livelihoods and find ways to sustain their businesses even during challenging times, and beyond the end of the project.

**Top:** Village Health Volunteers travel through difficult terrain to make sure no one is missing out on the cure for leprosy.



## NEW ZEALAND

*And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

2 Corinthians 9:8



**T**LM New Zealand is humbled and thankful for the love and compassion of their loyal supporters. These supporters uphold the Mission's work financially and prayerfully, and give their time so freely to volunteer at the office, and to speak at churches and community groups. More than 12,000 New Zealanders actively support the work of the Mission and we aim to engage more New Zealanders to realise our global goal of Zero Leprosy Transmission by 2035. Their commitment enables lives to be transformed, giving hope to countless leprosy-affected families in Bangladesh, PNG and Bougainville, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, and Nepal.

TLM New Zealand also partners with The New Zealand Aid Programme (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade), the Autonomous Bougainville Government, NLR and other grassroots organisations in the implementing countries. Together, they help to cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy to fullness of life.

### KEY STAFF

Gillian Whitley – TLM Country Leader  
Martin Malkaney – Finance Manager  
Sarita Divis – Fundraising Manager  
Jasleen Kler – Programme Manager  
Odele Habets – Chair of the Board

21–27 JUN

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Banks in New Zealand are stopping the issuing and processing of cheques in 2021. Around 30 percent of New Zealand's donations income come through loyal supporters giving donations by cheque. We give thanks for their continued support and pray that they are encouraged to continue their giving using other methods.

**TUE:** Give thanks for the many churches who faithfully support TLM New Zealand. Pray for open doors so we can reach out to new churches and that they will be moved to support the Mission's work in defeating leprosy and transforming lives.

**WED:** Many New Zealand supporters are elderly and have been affected disproportionately by the Covid-19 pandemic. During the lockdowns in New Zealand they prayed for and gave sacrificially for people affected by leprosy. Pray for blessings of health and wellbeing for those that think of others even when they are facing difficult times themselves.

**THU:** Over the course of the year, TLM NZ staff are conducting a range of fundraising activities to cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy around the world. Pray that these initiatives will be fruitful and inspire new committed supporters on the final journey towards ending leprosy.

**FRI:** Give thanks for the many valued volunteers who give so freely of their time, talents and resources to assist with office administration tasks, and who speak at local churches and community groups to raise funds and awareness of leprosy.

**SAT/SUN:** Praise God for TLM NZ's positive partnership with the NZ Government, implementing countries and partner organisations. Pray these relationships strengthen and continue to bring hope and lasting impact to people affected by leprosy around the world.

**Top:** 2020 Youth Advocates from New Zealand visiting our work in Nepal.

## FUNDRAISING

28 JUN–4 JUL

*Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

2 Corinthians 9:7



**T**he vitally important projects of curing and caring for people affected by leprosy require financial resources in order to function. Some 11 TLM countries are focused on this crucial fundraising activity.

With integrity, we share the need with supporters, inviting them to demonstrate their care and concern for people affected by leprosy through their prayers and financial gifts. Funds are raised from individuals, churches, civic groups, trusts/foundations and Government bodies. This mix of fundraising streams is very important so that we are not dependent on any single source.

**Top:** Kila runs a fish business in Papua New Guinea. When The Leprosy Mission started visiting her village, the staff helped her further develop her skills. Now she is sharing her knowledge by mentoring people affected by leprosy and disability. The money given by our donors will impact whole lifetimes across the world. (© Daniel Christiansz)

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** We give God thanks for the many thousands of faithful donors who have given, often sacrificially, to care for people affected by leprosy. Pray blessing upon them.

**TUE:** Today we pray for all those TLM countries who have strategies to increase their fundraising activity. Pray they will seek the Lord and that He will guide them 'where to fish' (John 21:6).

**WED:** There has been greater sharing of fundraising materials across the TLM Global Fellowship in recent years. Pray this will continue and indeed increase.

**THU:** Pray for Jo-Anne Thomson in the International Office, who is involved in discussions with 'new' countries who could raise funds for people affected by leprosy.

**FRI:** As plans are formed for a global fundraising campaign, pray for wisdom on the theme/topic. Also pray for the campaign, that the Lord will 'open the floodgates of heaven' and we will see a great success.

**SAT/SUN:** We rejoice and give thanks to the Lord for His goodness and blessing on fundraising campaigns in the past. Please pray for His continuing and increasing favour, that He will 'Establish the work of our hands' (Psalm 90:17).

### KEY STAFF

Jo-Anne Thomson – Head of Fundraising Development  
Samuel Davies – Global Institutional Fundraising Coordinator

## NIGERIA

5–11 JUL

*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.*

Romans 8: 1-2



**T**LM Nigeria (TLMN) works in collaboration with the Government of Nigeria to support the control of leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and their consequences on affected populations in Nigeria. TLMN ministers to over 33,850 persons affected by leprosy in communities spread across 11 states in Nigeria.

Every year, approximately 2,500 new leprosy cases are diagnosed. The World Health Organization ranks Nigeria as the third among African countries in terms of leprosy burden.

TLM Nigeria's determination to continually make a difference targeted at transforming lives, reducing stigma, establishing sustainable livelihoods, eradicating leprosy and addressing disabilities has been streamlined into the development of the new Country Strategy (2021 – 2025).

**Top:** Monday Israel Akpan is a person affected by leprosy who makes a living by weaving baskets that he sells in his community.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for the TLMN team as they commence the implementation of the new Country Strategy 2021 – 2025, that God will grant them grace, wisdom and strength to implement interventions that will create greater impact.

**TUE:** The 2021 World Leprosy Day celebration included a series of events such as a ministerial press briefing, advocacy visits, and visits to communities of persons affected by leprosy. Please pray that the Government and other organisations will increase commitment in the fight against leprosy following these efforts.

**WED:** The TLMN staff conference took place in May 2021. Please pray that God will deposit in the heart of all participants His Word for the season following the conference, and that participants will develop renewed commitment towards impacting the lives of persons and communities affected by leprosy for God.

**THU:** Pray for TLMN's Board Meetings. Pray for wisdom, grace and foresight for all members as decisions concerning the Mission in Nigeria are made.

**FRI:** Nigeria has continued to experience security challenges as a result of terrorists, cattle rustlers, and bandits across Nigeria. Please pray that peace will be restored to the troubled States, and that persons affected by leprosy and their families caught in the troubled areas will be safe.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks to God for all the volunteers and donors who give time and money to support the work of TLM Nigeria. Pray that God will continue to raise up people and organisations to join the fight against leprosy and its consequences.

### KEY STAFF

Dr Sunday Udo – TLM Country Leader  
Mr Pius Ogbu Sunday – Head of Programmes & Operations  
Mr Obinna Anagboso – Head of Finance & Administration  
Mr Terver Anyor – Head of Funds Development  
Prof. Ekanem Ikpi Braide OFR (TLMN Board Chairperson)

## SCOTLAND

12–18 JUL

*"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."*

John 14:12



**T**he Leprosy Mission Scotland is a fundraising team. We raise funds from people and churches across Scotland to help people affected by leprosy in our partner countries across Asia and Africa. Our key message is that our supporters will "make leprosy a thing of the past".

We have ambitious plans to reach a much wider range of people and raise much more support over the next few years. By "eradicating leprosy, one person at a time" we believe that in this specific area we will "finish what Jesus started".

We raise funds through direct mail appeals, digital campaigns, semi-addressed mail, face to face fundraising in stations and shopping centres, speaking in churches, coffee mornings, concerts and sponsored events.

As well as raising funds, we believe in raising prayer support from across the country. We will distribute more than 3,000 copies of ASK this year and send out regular prayer emails to interested supporters.

**Top:** Supporters from Aberdeen took part in the Kiltwalk to raise support for their favourite project - Bankura Vocational Training Centre in India.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Give thanks for the many donors who give generously to help people affected by leprosy through the various projects that TLM Scotland support. Pray that God will bless them for their love for people in need because of leprosy.

**TUE:** Give thanks for volunteer Board members, speakers, church representatives, community fundraisers and office admin helpers in Scotland. Pray that God will bless them for all that they do. Pray too for new volunteers to step forward in key areas, especially for new Board members with the right skills and experience to fill important gaps.

**WED:** Give thanks for everyone who has included a gift in their Will to help people affected by leprosy. Pray that God will bless them for their generosity and foresight. Pray that more people would choose to give a gift to help make leprosy a thing of the past after they have gone.

**THU:** Give thanks for the launch of "Cook Up A Curry" last year. Pray that people will hold lots of curry-themed fundraisers in their homes and churches this year to make leprosy a thing of the past in India.

**FRI:** Give thanks for those churches that support people affected by leprosy, and TLM, with their gifts and prayers. Pray for opportunities to engage with more churches and that they will choose to take part in finishing what Jesus started.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray that more people from across Scotland will join you in praying regularly for people affected by leprosy, and the work of The Leprosy Mission, using the ASK diary, TLM Scotland's monthly prayer emails and prayer app, PrayerMate.

### KEY STAFF

Linda Todd – Chief Executive Officer  
Stuart McAra – Head of Engagement  
Mhairi Dawson – Head of Supporter Care and Volunteer Development  
Tim Reed – Head of Insight



## ETHIOPIA

19–25 JUL

*He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.*

1 Peter 1:3–4



Since July 2013, The Leprosy Mission Ethiopia (TLM-E) has been working as an international non-government organisation in Ethiopia. TLM-E works closely with different leprosy-affected peoples' organisations, such as the Ethiopian National Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy (ENAPAL), and the Addis Ababa Leprosy and Disability Rehabilitation Association (ALDRA). They are also working on a new initiative with Tearfund.

Through God's grace, and with great help from TLM Netherlands, a new programme "Power of Voice: We are able!" is starting. TLM Ethiopia, as one of the partner organisations, will contribute in the areas of empowerment, amplifying voices, and creating resilience in women and men with disabilities, and those from other marginalised groups. The focus is mainly on food security in areas of long-term continuing crisis, aiming to strengthen the lobbying and advocacy capacity of individuals whose voices are not heard.

**Top:** Bel, Berihun, and Solomon, the team at TLM Ethiopia.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Praise God for the individuals and institutions that continue to support TLM Ethiopia in different capacities. Their support is vital as we continue our work.

**TUE:** Thank God for the new programme "Power of Voice: We are Able!" which will have a great impact on the lives of people affected by leprosy and those who live with disability as it highlights inclusive approaches to food security.

**WED:** Pray for the people of Ethiopia, particularly those affected by leprosy. As well as the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 also brought devastating locusts plagues to the country. These twin disasters were devastating for many farmers in a country that is heavily reliant on agriculture. Pray for those who are struggling because of the locusts and the pandemic.

**THU:** Give thanks to the Lord for the Advisory Board at TLM Ethiopia. Pray for God's guidance upon them in supporting us with their skill, experience and Christian values.

**FRI:** Pray for God's mercy and peace upon the amazingly beautiful, but poor country of Ethiopia, as ethnic conflict in addition to long-term Covid-19 effects are becoming significant, which is a real obstacle for development work.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray that God will help as we seek to influence decision makers in Ethiopia, mainly our Prime Minister, as we share the message that leprosy needs to be on the Government's agenda.

### KEY STAFF

Mrs Beletshachew Tadesse – Country Representative  
Mr Berihun Legesse – Finance and Admin Officer  
Solomon Getahun – Programme Coordinator

## GERMANY

26 JUL–1 AUG

*For the Lord gives wisdom; out of his mouth come knowledge and reason.*

Proverbs 2:6



The Leprosy Mission Germany is a small group of active donors and friends with a wide heart and the urge to help people affected by leprosy. The Board members are all volunteers who are very happy that we have been able to attract young people to the Board.

Our cooperation is characterised by appreciation and trust. We want to grow and hopefully we are on the right track. Our partner countries are Niger, Chad and India and we maintain close contact with each.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Thank God for the wonderful Germans who pray and give financially to help people affected by leprosy.

**TUE:** Give thanks for all the helping hands and all the creativity and ideas from friends of The Leprosy Mission as we stand with people affected by leprosy.

**WED:** Please pray that more churches and groups will open their minds and be interested in helping and supporting our projects.

**THU:** Give thanks for all the colleagues in our implementing countries. Pray for protection, health, strength and love for the people they are working with.

**FRI:** Pray for new funding opportunities and for wisdom for staff to know where to concentrate their efforts.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for our new Board members and for valuable and successful cooperation together.

### KEY STAFF

Bettina Merz – Country Leader  
Dr. Johannes Schäfer – Chair

**Top:** Bettina Merz, Country Leader, in the Norway-Bergen former Leprosy Hospital and now Leprosy Museum.

## BANGLADESH – COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION AND ADVOCACY

2–8 AUG



### Community-Based Rehabilitation

The Leprosy Mission Bangladesh (TLMIB) helps to enable the economic and social empowerment of persons affected by leprosy through 1,550 self-help groups. These groups provide mutual support and livelihood opportunities for people affected by leprosy, disability and poverty. Through these groups TLMIB provide training, skills development, and access to self-help credit.

The North West Bangladesh Ultra Poverty Initiative Project (NUPIP) works to overcome extreme poverty among people with leprosy disabilities and improve livelihoods.

### Advocacy

TLMIB is influencing the policies and practices of the Government and other decision makers as well as developing positive attitudes among medical personnel, NGOs, and communities regarding the rights of people affected by leprosy. We are striving to ensure leprosy services in uncovered districts. We also work to improve the self-advocacy skills of persons affected by leprosy through our self-help groups.

#### KEY STAFF

Mr. Surendra Nath Singh - Programme Leader, Community Programmes  
Mr. Noel Manna Day - Finance Manager, Community Programmes  
Mr. Dalwor Hossain (Delu) - Manager, CBR Partners  
Mr. Ambor Chisim - Manager, NUPIP  
Mrs. Kalpona Kispotta - Manager, TLM Nilphamari Training Centre, & Hagar Centre  
Mrs. Lovely Probbhati Mrong - Manager, Dhaka CBR Project  
Mrs. Masuma Parvin - Manager, AEP Project

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** The Mobilisation and Empowerment of People living with Disability Project could not carry out all of its plans in 2020, which may be a challenge to achieve its long-term targets. Please pray that the project can carry out all its planned activity for 2021, including the carried forward activities.

**TUE:** Please pray that initiatives to minimise the funding gap of the Chattogram people-led Development Project are successful and the project can do its planned activities.

**WED:** Give thanks to Lord for the extension of the Community Based Rehabilitation Partner (CBRP) project which has been supported by the Danish Mission Council Development Department for two years. Please pray for the sustainability of self-help groups and disabled peoples' organisations, and the registration of district associations supported by TLMIB in North-West Bangladesh.

**THU:** In 2019 and 2020, NUPIP supported income generation activities for 126 people with disabilities due to leprosy and Lymphatic Filariasis. Please pray for improvement of their livelihoods.

**FRI:** The Activating and Engaging Partnerships to reduce leprosy in Bangladesh (AEP) project has supported the National Leprosy Programme in reviewing the current Leprosy Control Strategy of Bangladesh 2016-2020. Please pray for the development of the strategy for 2021-2025 with active involvement of Government and leprosy NGOs.

**SAT/SUN:** We have 10 churches in the tea garden area in Moulvibazar District which have been involved in the Activating Churches to Serve people affected by Leprosy (ACTS-Leprosy) project supported by TLM Netherlands. Give thanks for this work.

**Top:** A meeting of a disabled peoples' organisation in Nilphamari.

## NETHERLANDS

9–15 AUG

*But the comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid!*

John 14: 26-27



The Leprosy Mission Netherlands (Leprazending Nederland) was founded in the 1980s to support The Leprosy Mission International with funds, prayer and human resources. The office is in Apeldoorn and there are ten members of staff, seven Board members and ten volunteers.

TLM Netherlands also support a Dutch cross-cultural worker: Geeske Zijp in Chad.

TLM Netherlands' vision is to see leprosy and rehabilitation services strengthened and to enable transformation in the lives of people affected by leprosy in India, Bangladesh, DR Congo, Myanmar, Nepal and Chad. In order to make that possible, TLM Netherlands seeks support from individual donors, churches and trust funds and organises events to get people involved with the vision and mission of TLM.

**Top:** Henno Couprie, the Country Leader of TLM Netherlands.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** We are thankful for our wonderful volunteers, they are truly indispensable to our work. Give thanks to God for all that they do.

**TUE:** We are thankful for our loyal supporters. Give thanks with us for our supporters and pray that we will find opportunities to bring in new supporters.

**WED:** Please pray for the wellbeing of Geeske Zijp in Chad and her team, as they continue their leprosy work, now in Salamat.

**THU:** We are thankful for our Board, please pray that God will grant them wisdom in their role.

**FRI:** Please pray for inspiration and guidance for our staff as they go about their work to raise money for and awareness of leprosy in the world today.

**SAT/SUN:** Please pray as our organisation continues to adjust to a changed world after Covid-19.

#### KEY STAFF

Mr. Henno Couprie - TLM Country Leader  
Mr. Cor van Leeuwen - Team Leader, Administration & Back Office  
Mrs. Heidi Hoogvliet - Team Leader, Partners, Programmes & Project Funding  
Mr. Mark van den Berg - Team Leader, Fundraising & Communication



# Born in prayer, cradled in prayer

**M**y daughter was born with Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip. Both hip sockets were too shallow for the top of her thighbones (the femurs) to sit in them. Her thighs would dislocate whenever her legs were straightened so we could not swaddle her like other babies. For one year, she had to wear a hip brace to force her hip sockets to deepen.

This condition is uncommon in Singapore. We even had to explain it to nurses during check-ups! Googling it made us feel worse, stories of children living with unsuccessful surgeries and permanent pain.

However, God was at work. From the day she was born, TLM colleagues from London to Timor Leste, from Thailand to Papua New Guinea supported me. They wrote encouraging emails and prayed with me over the phone. Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist colleagues counselled me, one said, "God's not done with your baby girl. He is still forming her!" At her first birthday, ultrasounds showed that her hips were 100 percent developed and my daughter was discharged from follow-ups. She is 18 years old now and never once has there been a problem.

As Wellesley Bailey said: "The Leprosy Mission was born in prayer and cradled in prayer." It is a privilege to work with an organisation that puts God first, that is unafraid to bow our knees and ask Him to heal, equip and guide us.

God hears and I know he honours the prayers of those who love him. As we continue through ASK, may we be reminded to constantly put Him first. Through prayer, let us always lift our work and each other up. We will see an end to leprosy, transmission, disability and discrimination because God is in charge.

**Cindy Norfor**

Global HR Advisor, TLM International  
(based in Singapore)

*Be anxious for nothing,  
but in everything, by  
prayer and petition, with  
thanksgiving, present  
your requests to God.  
And the peace of God,  
which surpasses all  
understanding, will guard  
your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6-7

## TANZANIA AND SPAIN

16–22 AUG

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Philippians 4:6–7



### Tanzania

Our partner in Tanzania is the Anglican Diocese of Central Tanganyika (DCT), which runs Hombolo Hospital and its Community Health Education Programme (CHEP). They work to decrease the incidence of leprosy in the Dodoma Region and other areas by raising community awareness about leprosy, running a mobile clinic and conducting leprosy screening.

They also reduce social stigma and empower people affected by leprosy through Human Rights training so that people affected by leprosy and persons with disability will know their rights.

The team also works to improve livelihood opportunities for people affected by leprosy with increased access to water and sanitation, as well as housing. This is done through community-based rehabilitation programmes that help people affected by leprosy make a living.

### Spain

TLM Spain work to raise money for people affected by leprosy. They want to see people affected by leprosy lifted out of exclusion and know Jesus.

For over 20 years they have witnessed many cures and seen many lives transformed. This is all thanks to the donations of generous Spaniards who have a heart that is full of mercy for those in need.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### Tanzania

**MON:** Pray for the sustainability of CHEP and Hombolo Hospital. The Hombolo Hospital CHEP programme introduced several new services for the community, including an eye clinic, dental clinic and gynaecological clinic. These services are offered by specialist doctors from DCT Mvumi, Mackay, and Dodoma Referral Hospital. Pray that God will guide these efforts.

**TUE:** The DCT is in the process of establishing a Medical Institute which will operate under the Mvumi Institute. The Medical Institute will offer medical courses for Nurses and Medical Attendants. Pray that God will guide their efforts towards implementation.

**WED:** The Tanzania Leprosy Association and CHEP are in the process of introducing and establishing vegetable cultivation in Samaria Village. The villagers will be the ones to conduct this programme so that the community will be empowered to improve their own local economy. Please ask God to give strength and willingness to all those taking part.

#### Spain

**THU:** Pray that the team of volunteers in Spain will be able to achieve their goals for 2021.

**FRI:** Pray that the team will be successful in their efforts to reach out to supporters and that these supporters will continue to give to this important work.

**SAT/SUN:** Please pray for more volunteers that will be willing to be a part of the TLM Spain team.

### KEY STAFF

#### Tanzania

Debora John Michael – Director, Community Health Education Programme

#### Spain

Vivian Calderon

**Top:** Nurse Jemima and clinical officer, Estomihi are taking a patient's history. This patient has become blind because of leprosy.

## Alina's story



Alina was 13 when we first met her in her native Nepal. She had found out she had leprosy three years before but she thinks she's had leprosy since she was nine.

At first she didn't receive the right treatment and her fingers began to claw. Eventually she arrived at our Anandaban Hospital in Nepal and received the treatment she needed.

Since she contracted leprosy, her father has been gone. He has not come home. Her mother works abroad in Kuwait as a household worker, so her grandparents take care of her.

She feels loved, but she also cries and feels very bad sometimes. Because of nerve damage caused by leprosy she has lost sensation in her fingers. She picked up some hot glasses without realising they were dangerously hot and ended up with wounds that became infected.

What she wants is to be healed and at Anandaban Hospital she feels like she is being healed.

She became a Christian after her leprosy diagnosis and when asked what she wants to do in the future, she says she is a Christian and wants to serve the Lord.





The Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI) delivers its healthcare programme through 14 hospitals and two clinics spread across 10 states of India – Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

The hospitals and clinics address all aspects of leprosy as a medico-social disease, provide specialised leprosy referral services, and primary-level preventive healthcare through community outreach. Leprosy is a major cause of disability and the hospitals address the issue of disability through institution-based and community-based disability management. Also, the hospitals provide secondary-level healthcare in other medical specialties, such as dermatology, ophthalmology, general medicine, general surgery, and obstetrics and gynaecology.

TLMTI provides holistic care for the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of elderly persons disabled by leprosy in its five Snehalayas (Snehalaya is a Hindi term which means, 'a house of love') spread across three states of India.

Top: A doctor examining a leprosy patient at TLM Purulia Hospital, West Bengal.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray that our hospitals will continue to bring healing to the communities we serve with priorities to people affected by leprosy and other marginalised communities.

**TUE:** The biggest challenge is to recruit committed Christian professionals. Pray that God will raise up a generation of professionals who will continue the much-needed work of the Mission and take up leadership roles.

**WED:** With the changing demands of healthcare, our hospitals need upgrades of infrastructure and equipment. Pray that God will raise resources for our hospitals, so we can continue to provide the best services. These changes are also much needed as a new generation of professionals joins the Mission.

**THU:** Pray for the strengthening of the community outreach work of the hospitals. These programmes raise awareness about leprosy and its treatment, promoting early reporting and implementing preventive healthcare.

**FRI:** Pray for all staff and their families, that God will continue to bless them and use them for His glory as they serve in various departments in our hospitals. Also, pray for their spiritual growth.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for good partnership with the Government at district and state levels so that our hospitals can work together and have a greater impact in the geographical areas that God has placed us.

For a full list of staff in India, turn to p88

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.*

Jeremiah 29: 11-12



For nearly 50 years now, TLM Belgium has been encouraging Protestants of all denominations in Belgium to support persons affected by leprosy in many parts of the world by praying, donating and getting practically involved as a volunteer. Although Protestants are only a very small minority in Belgium, with the Lord's inspiration and guidance, TLM Belgium believes that it should be possible to reach more people and to motivate and enthuse more Belgians to get involved in supporting persons affected by leprosy by prayer, donating and practical involvement as volunteers.

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic was a wake-up call and a true challenge to consolidate and to stay in touch with existing loyal supporters, as well as to explore new ways and means to reach new supporters.

TLM Belgium tries to do so by attracting a younger generation of volunteers who know how to get and stay connected with the younger generation of supporters in Belgium.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Paulin Songolea Bakalania - Acting Country Leader  
Francis Van De Walle - Chair  
Marijke Sajet - Vice-Chair and Chair of the Dutch-speaking Working Group  
Irène Masika Katselewa - Member, Chair of the French-speaking Working Group  
Renée Hugaerts - Treasurer  
Norbert Ngila Bampunga - Secretary  
Tünde Csákány - Member

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Give thanks for the many loyal and faithful supporters in Belgium who support the many thousands of persons affected by leprosy. Let us pray for their continued support through prayer, by donating, and volunteering.

**TUE:** Give thanks for the many persons affected by leprosy that the supporters of TLM Belgium are helping through their prayer and their giving for TLM projects in DR Congo, Chad, Nigeria, Nepal and Indonesia.

**WED:** TLM Belgium is very grateful for all the warm support it receives from the TLM Global Fellowship. It feels as though this is growing with the years. Let us pray that the Members of the TLM Global Fellowship may continue to develop into a worldwide and warm family, fully dedicated to striving together to defeat leprosy and transform the lives of all those who are affected by leprosy.

**THU:** Let us pray that the team of volunteers at TLM Belgium may hear the Lord's voice so they can be inspired and guided by Him and see how to consolidate and expand the activities of TLM Belgium so as to reach more people in Belgium.

**FRI:** TLM Belgium endeavours to improve its website and develop a Facebook page in order to connect with new supporters who prefer using these media. Pray that TLM Belgium may succeed in attracting a new team of volunteers to develop and maintain these newer communications channels.

**SAT/SUN:** Several donors prefer to donate more by receiving a tax certificate, enabling them to recover part of the donated amount through their annual tax declaration. TLM Belgium is grateful that for many years Protestant Solidarity has provided such tax certificates. Give thanks and pray that this cooperation may bear more fruit and become closer.

Top: Songolea and his wife Irène at a fundraising activity.

## KEY PARTNERS

6–12 SEP



### American Leprosy Missions

Founded in 1906, American Leprosy Missions (ALM) is the oldest and largest Christian organisation in the United States dedicated to curing and caring for people affected by leprosy and related diseases. ALM has transformed the lives of more than four million people worldwide through medical treatment and training, Christian outreach, prevention of disability, community development and research.

### effect:hope

effect:hope (The Leprosy Mission Canada) is focused on ending the injustice of neglected tropical diseases like leprosy.

Since 1892, we have been working together with our partners to treat these diseases, to advocate on behalf of patients, and to help restore lives. We fund ground-breaking research and provide ongoing care and training to empower patients and healthcare workers.

### The Mission to End Leprosy (The Leprosy Mission Ireland)

We support strategic interventions to map, prevent, and treat leprosy. Our interventions prioritise impact. In addition to our fight against leprosy, we work with other neglected infectious and parasitic diseases.

**Top:** Surya, 10 years old, lives in India. He had early signs of leprosy without knowing it. But one of the community resource people in ALM's women-led WASH programme recognised Surya's symptoms and got him the treatment he needed. Surya has now been cured and can look forward to a life without disability or stigma.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### USA

**MON:** Please pray for support for ALM staff and partner hospitals who are contending with the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially as they seek to continue care for people affected by leprosy and financing of that work.

**TUE:** Please pray for perseverance for our women-led WASH project in India. Pray that these women will remain hopeful as they help their neighbours with hygiene habits that will protect them from leprosy and other infectious diseases.

#### Canada

**WED:** Offer God praise for our CEO, Kim Evans, who has led the organisation through a pandemic and various initiatives to better position us to serve people affected by neglected tropical diseases.

**THU:** Pray for greater awareness and concern among Canadians for the people we serve. Pray that more Canadians will come alongside and choose to support the work of effect:hope and our partners through prayer and gifts.

#### Ireland

**FRI:** Please pray for the development of our research projects and the piloting of our new programmes around the world. Pray that our relationships with our partners will continue to deepen and grow.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray that our Board will continue to be led by God to work towards ending leprosy. Pray that they continue to be bold in their goals for the organisation.

### KEY STAFF

#### ALM

Bill Simmons – President and CEO

#### effect:hope

Kim Evans – CEO and Executive Director

#### The Mission to End Leprosy

Ken Gibson – CEO

## THAILAND AND INDONESIA

13–19 SEP



### McKean Hospital

McKean is a hospital and Christian service centre owned by the national Thai church. TLM has supported this ministry in different ways over McKean's 112 years of continuing service.

Today McKean continues to provide specialised services for leprosy patients, access to treatment and rehabilitation for displaced and marginalised people, and multi-tiered aged care services for a broad range of people in need.

McKean also trains care-givers for the elderly, provides palliative and hospice care, and pastoral care support for all involved. As well as this, McKean also provides teaching and leprosy awareness to medical personnel.

### Indonesia

Indonesia ranks third in the world in the number of leprosy cases. TLM teams in New Zealand, the Netherlands and Australia have partnered with NLR Indonesia to work in one of the poorest districts in West Java, Indramayu.

The project supports the work of the local health facilities by intensifying case finding, improving leprosy control, implementing a preventive antibiotic (to household and social contacts of someone affected by leprosy) and strengthening community involvement and empowerment.

**Top:** A young boy being screened for leprosy in Indonesia.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### McKean

**MON:** Give thanks and pray for the new leadership team at McKean and the start of the new independent living units.

**TUE:** Pray that marginalised and disadvantaged patients will be able to travel for the treatment they need, and will find new hope, mobility and well-being

**WED:** Pray for doctors to provide timely diagnosis and correct treatment for new leprosy patients in Thailand attending integrated general clinics, and for appropriate support to be given to many disabled patients who are growing elderly and frail.

#### Indonesia

**THU:** Pray for the direct involvement of people affected by leprosy in the promotion, prevention and treatment of leprosy. Pray for the ongoing leprosy and prevention training and technical development for health workers to ensure their knowledge, skills and readiness in providing these vital services.

**FRI:** Give thanks and praise for the collaboration of TLM New Zealand and TLM Netherlands, working together with NLR-Indonesia and the Indonesian Department of Health to undertake intensive case finding and distribution of the preventative antibiotic, Rifampicin, as we seek to end transmission.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for the awareness raising activities at village level and the developing of relationships with a diverse range of community leaders to encourage community support for our health interventions.

### KEY STAFF

#### McKean staff

Boonyarid Promsuttipong – Manager, Acting Director

Dr. Ratana Panpanich – Assistant Director

Arune Jimpalee – Chaplain, Head of Social services

Paratee Chalermliamthong – Head of Nursing Services

Warit Anuchiracheewa – Head of Aged Care.

**Indonesia staff** (within the TLM NZ office)

Gillian Whitley – TLM NZ Country Leader

Andrew Harding – Programmes Adviser



## TLM CHURCHES

*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell will not overcome it.*

Matthew 16:18



The Leprosy Mission is supported by around 6,000 churches all over the world. These churches are central to our efforts to defeat leprosy and transform lives.

Some churches play their part with fundraising events and by donating money, while other churches are crucial links to the communities we are looking to support as they share information about leprosy and signpost people affected to the support they can receive.

In fact, during the Covid-19 pandemic, our links with churches were essential as it was through them that we provided public health information about the virus to isolated communities.

Whether the church is in Melbourne, Lagos, Manchester, Yangon, Johannesburg, Auckland, Belfast, Zurich, Stockholm, or Kinshasa, they are all part of God's kingdom and they are all playing a role in His and our mission to end leprosy.

**Top:** This is a church in Wan Tong leprosy village in Eastern Shan State, Myanmar. Donations from The Leprosy Mission's supporters in England and Wales, as well as local donations in Myanmar, provided the community of people affected by leprosy with a new church building.

20–26 SEP

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Praise the Lord. He has covered the Earth with churches and communities of worshippers. Thank Him that thousands of those church communities are dedicated to defeating leprosy.

**TUE:** Covid-19 provided challenges for churches all over the world. It also meant that we had to find new ways to reach worshippers. Thank God for our dedicated staff who didn't allow physical distance to stand between them and forging connections with the churches that sustain our Mission.

**WED:** Our goal is that there will be no new cases of leprosy by 2035; we will finish the work that Jesus started and end leprosy. To achieve this we need funds, and churches are a crucial source of funding. Please pray that new churches will be inspired to give money to support people affected by leprosy and end the disease for good.

**THU:** Thank God for the churches and church leaders in leprosy-affected communities who partner with us and help us to reach more people affected by leprosy. Pray that we will be able to forge more of those connections as we strive to end leprosy transmission by 2035.

**FRI:** Some of our church partners are in countries where it is not always easy to be a Christian. Please pray for God's protection for them and for courage in the face of pain.

**SAT/SUN:** As church communities gather together this weekend, keep them in your thoughts and your prayers. There will be services every weekend that talk about ending leprosy. Rejoice with us and thank God for the thoughts, prayers, actions, and donations of all these churches.

## HUNGARY

27 SEP–3 OCT

*Unless the Lord builds the house the builders labour in vain... for he grants sleep to those he loves.*

Psalms 127:1–2



TLM Hungary has been supporting the work among people affected by leprosy since 1974, standing alone in the Eastern region of Europe in doing that. The activity is nurtured by individuals and churches.

To keep prayer for people affected by leprosy going, ASK has been translated by a group of mainly young volunteers into the national language for the twelfth time. TLM's Bridge devotional is sent out monthly online to each local church to help spread the spirit of an overseas Christian mission.

For our fundraising work, the backbone of what we do is the regular newsletters to individual and church supporters, while we also work on recruiting new, younger supporters through online channels, ads, appeals, and campaigns.

Part timers and volunteers play an important role countrywide as church contacts, with online marketing, database and administrative support, translators, advisors, and with manual tasks, such as packaging up our newsletters. Younger generations of students are ongoing support in these tasks.

### KEY STAFF

Marta Risko – Country Leader  
Dr Andrea Bartha – Chair of the Board

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Join us in giving thanks to God for His faithfulness and the many ways we have been permanently experiencing it along the 47 years of TLM Hungary's activity so far!

**TUE:** Give thanks for the dedication of Christian churches in Hungary towards helping people affected by leprosy, for the pastors, priests and ministers of the different denominations who have a heart for the cause of the Mission. Give thanks for the faithful church contacts, whose dedication and ongoing stimulation is keeping the flame alive.

**WED:** We have been engaging more with secular audiences through leaflet inserts into different magazines, appeals, advertisements, and online activities. Pray for the efficacy of these efforts, that they will touch the hearts of many Hungarians.

**THU:** Reaching out to the next generation is a key focus for us. Sharing our Mission with children, youth and young adults, as well as future generations of church ministers, is happening across online marketing activities, live presentations, and campaigns. We offer volunteering opportunities in various ways. Pray that these activities will be the seeds that fall upon good soil!

**FRI:** We are thankful for the spiritual and personal relationships with our project partners. Pray for these links to be expanded and developed through a spirit of fellowship and serving together.

**SAT/SUN:** Give thanks for the small team of part timers and volunteers, the Chair and members of the Board, and the different committees and advisors. Give thanks for the good working atmosphere amongst all of these groups and pray that this will continue. Pray that Marta, the Country Leader, will be able to listen to God's guidance as she plans, innovates and acts in the interests of people affected by leprosy.

**Top:** Students support the TLM Hungary team with mailing newsletters to supporters.

# There is no person affected by leprosy who doesn't matter to Jesus

I finished the phone call. I shut my office door. I collapsed into a chair, crying. I'd never had such a moving conversation with a supporter before. He had called me from palliative care. He wanted to know about a project he was investing in. Even in the last stage of his life, he wanted to know about others. He had been a supporter of people affected by leprosy his whole life.

I had to take some time out. His faith in Jesus moved me. I worry about my life all the time, I schedule it to the last minute. But this man didn't. He knew he couldn't add a single hour to his life by worrying. He was looking for God's kingdom. He was looking for Jesus. He was storing his treasures in heaven. He was a living example of Matthew 6.

I've had the joy of meeting many supporters of The Leprosy Mission in the last few years. And they all move me. They all remind me of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They are not naive. They are successful businesspeople, homemakers, part of their local church. But, they have understood the Sermon on the Mount.

Sometimes I am asked what I most enjoy about my job and my answer is always the same. "The supporters." Their faith always encourages mine. They are living Matthew 10:8.

The Apostle, Paul, wrote "We remember before our God and Father: Your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thes 1:3. Paul saw Jesus as the King of Israel and that the gospel means all people can follow Jesus.

The Leprosy Mission's supporters understand this. To them, it doesn't matter if they have never met someone with leprosy. But the person with leprosy matters to them. Because they matter to Jesus.

Reflection: When you consider all your giving through The Leprosy Mission, both time and money, what has most captured your heart and attention?

**Tim Collison**

Engagement Manager at The Leprosy Mission Australia

*We remember before our God and Father: Your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thessalonians 1:3



## THE LEPROSY MISSION AUSTRALIA SHOP

4–10 OCT

*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

2 Corinthians 9:6–8



Caring consumers can "Shop to Stop Leprosy" when buying gifts and everyday essentials through The Leprosy Mission Shop.

Sourced from around the world, the curated hand-made range is all about fair trade. Fair trade provides artisans affected by leprosy, disability, or disadvantage a dignified income. It enables them to support themselves, their families, and even empowers whole communities.

Gift of Love donations improve the living standards of someone affected by leprosy or disability through overseas projects. Gifts like protective shoes, scholarships, vocational training, and toilets! A Gift of Love card is a precious keepsake for you or for the friend you've donated the gift on behalf of.

The range changes seasonally over Christmas, Summer/Autumn (Fall), Easter, Winter/Spring and there are special offers throughout the year that are too good to resist. Every season is a reason to be a cheerful giver, because every purchase changes the lives of people affected by leprosy and disability.

**Top:** The Leprosy Mission Australia Shop's Merchandise Manager, Supa Thejan, introduces Aussie supporters to local artisans in Nepal.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** The Leprosy Mission Shop runs an acquisition campaign for new shoppers. Give thanks for the success of this year's campaign. Please pray all first-time buyers will become regular shoppers.

**TUE:** Praise God! The Leprosy Mission Shop helps lift people out of poverty by stocking fair trade artisans' goods from around the world. Pray these artisans are blessed and their income is sustained. Praise God for all who shop to support them.

**WED:** The Leprosy Mission Shop buys many products from artisans affected by leprosy and disability. Praise God for this wonderful double impact. Give thanks for the artisans' God-given abilities. Pray these purchases would be a blessing for them.

**THU:** Groups and volunteers sell products to their friends and community groups. Give thanks for how they help people affected by leprosy in this way. Please pray they would continue to be successful in their efforts.

**FRI:** Christmas shopping supports many people affected by leprosy. Please pray for another successful year. Pray especially that this season would see many new and recovered customers.

**SAT/SUN:** The Leprosy Mission Shop has successful partnerships with Australian producers. Give thanks that these partnerships bring in new support for people affected by leprosy. Please pray these partnerships continue to strengthen.

### KEY STAFF

Supa Thejan – Merchandise Manager  
Jocelyn Lee – Inventory and Logistics Coordinator

## GLOBAL NETWORKS

11–17 OCT



The Leprosy Mission belongs to a range of networks all across the world. These networks allow our voice, and the voices of people affected by leprosy, to reach further than our one voice could reach on its own.

Our networks cover a range of issues: leprosy, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), disability, international development, and research. These networks allow us to advance the cause of people affected by leprosy, often at the highest levels of NGO and government policymaking.

Some of the networks TLM are involved in are:

- ILEP – The International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations
- The Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy (GPZL)
- Disabled Peoples' International (DPI)
- EU-CORD – A network of 24 Europe-based Christian organisations working towards the eradication of poverty
- NNN – The Neglected Tropical Diseases NGO Network
- The Leprosy Research Initiative – TLM is one of five organisations who are making major contributions each year to this joint fund to support leprosy research

**Top:** Ruth Faber, EU-CORD CEO, meets with the Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarčič, on behalf of European NGOs.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** During the Covid-19 pandemic, GPZL set up three task groups which worked to find out how the pandemic was impacting people affected by leprosy and how leprosy NGOs could make a difference. Their work was exceptional in 2020. Join us in thanking God for this work and pray that the legacy of these efforts will continue to be felt.

**TUE:** In 2020, EU-CORD welcomed a new team member, Peter, who heads up the advocacy work of the organisation. His work as a coordinator means that our efforts as a network of Christian NGOs in working with the European Union are more focused and concentrated. Pray that God will grant Peter wisdom as he leads this network.

**WED:** Pray for Geoff Warne, who is the CEO of ILEP. Pray for him as he leads the network in all of its work, particularly as he advances the cause of people affected by leprosy with the United Nations.

**THU:** Pray for our friends at DPI. They are working with us to try and break down the walls between leprosy peoples' associations and disabled peoples' associations so that people affected by leprosy can find a place in the wider disability movement. Pray that this work will have a great impact.

**FRI:** The Leprosy Research Initiative has succeeded in providing funding for vital leprosy research projects. Praise God for this great provision; it is a vital part of working to defeat leprosy. Pray that LRI will continue to direct resources to projects that will have the most impact on the lives of people affected by leprosy.

**SAT/SUN:** Some of these networks are Christian networks, some of them are not. Pray that, whatever networks we are a part of, we will be shining beacons of God's light and hope within them.

## NORWAY AND ITALY

18–24 OCT



### Italy

**M**issione Contro la Lebbra has been a part of TLM's Global Fellowship since 2018.

Our team is comprised only of volunteers who dedicate time to spreading the news about what can be done and what is currently being done by TLM to fight leprosy and help people who are affected by it.

We set up our official Facebook page last year so that supporters, who for decades had been kept in touch through a paper-based newsletter, could stay in touch online, as well. Thanks to the Facebook page, the website, and the newsletter, donors to TLM Italy have begun to give regularly through PayPal. A major breakthrough was made after we worked on a fundraising campaign with the International Office. The response to this campaign left us amazed.

We look forward to more to come!

### Norway

**A**round 20 years ago, TLM Norway was closed down and the few donors that remained were linked with TLM Sweden. Since then there has been no fundraising activities. However, a small group of interested persons are ready to restart TLM Norway. With support from neighbouring countries during the second part of 2020, important steps were taken to get TLM Norway set up once again and they officially joined TLM as an Affiliate Member in September 2020.

**Top:** TLM Italy's Board Secretary, Pietro Matino.

### PRAYER POINTS

#### Italy

**MON:** Please pray that the team will be able to attract a younger donor base, especially through their new Facebook page and the website.

**TUE:** Please pray for all of TLM Italy's wonderful volunteers. Pray that their energies will remain high.

**WED:** Please pray for new and powerful campaigns for the future so that Italy can be a strong supporter of all the work that TLM does.

#### Norway

**THU:** Pray for the board of TLM Norway. Pray that they will have wisdom to know how best to restart the organisation and the fundraising activities.

**FRI:** Pray for the work to develop a fundraising strategy for the country that will bring in funds that will be put towards defeating leprosy and transforming lives.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for good partnerships to be set up with the different churches in Norway. Pray that these churches will become regular supporters of the work to defeat leprosy.

### KEY STAFF

#### Italy

Pietro Matino – Board Secretary

Franco Ciuchi – Treasurer

Elia Landi – Vice President

#### Norway

Glenn Larsen – Chair

Wenche Larsen – Treasurer

Ester Akinyele – Secretary

## INDIA – VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

25–31 OCT



**T**he Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI) has six vocational training centres (VTCs) spread across six states of India - Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Every year our VTCs provide institution-based vocational training to 1,000 boys and girls affected by leprosy or with disabilities. The training prepares them for gainful employment. The job-oriented trades taught in the VTCs include diesel mechanics, printing, computers, two/three-wheeler mechanics, and electrics.

Through its community-based vocational training, TLMTI provides vocational training to women, men, and young girls and boys, allowing them to remain with their families throughout their training.

TLMTI not only provides job placement support after trainees complete the courses but also advocates for fair labour and safe and suitable working conditions for the students in their employment.

**Top:** Students undergo vocational training at TLM Champa Vocational Training Centre.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray for more industries to come forward to collaborate with TLMTI for in-plant practical training, job placement of graduates, and capacity building of instructors.

**TUE:** All our VTCs have strong alumni associations. Through these, the VTCs maintain regular contact with their graduates even after they are employed and support them to grow professionally. Pray for growth of the alumni associations and that the alumni may support each other.

**WED:** Along with job-oriented technical skills, our VTCs provide holistic development of students through life skills, disability prevention, and management programmes. Pray that, through these initiatives, students will develop dignified lives and make a difference in their own communities.

**THU:** After completion of the skills development training, many students opt for self-employment. Pray that they receive the necessary support from the Government and community to initiate and establish their businesses.

**FRI:** VTCs have links with reputable companies that provide job placements to the 1,000 students who join us each year. Pray for more companies to come forward to provide job placements.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray for God's guidance, wisdom, and protection for all staff engaged in skills training and vocational education and also for the people affected by leprosy with whom they work. TLMTI's vocational education programme is instrumental in enhancing the earning capacity of individuals affected with leprosy and general disabilities. Pray that the graduates become self-reliant, take care of their families, cope with emergencies, and lead a dignified life.

**For a full list of staff in India, turn to p88**



# Venancio's story

Venancio is from Mozambique. He was working as a labourer in a timber yard in 1985 when he started noticing symptoms of leprosy. His company were good to him and took him to Pemba so that he could receive treatment.

Unfortunately, these were the days of the Civil War in Mozambique and, although he received some treatment, he didn't realise that the treatment was incomplete. He eventually lost his job in the timber yard due to being unwell.

He went back to his village to take up subsistence farming, but his leprosy symptoms came back. He lived with ulcers in his feet and eventually lost some of his fingers.

In 2004 he met members of ALEMO in Pemba. ALEMO is the association of people affected by leprosy in Mozambique. They encouraged him to start taking treatment again and so he did. His leprosy was cured, but its disabling effects have stayed with him.

Meeting ALEMO became a significant moment in his life. He started organising people in his village as ALEMO members. They started out with five people in their group in 2005, but now they are up to 39 members. All of these people have received treatment and the stigma associated with leprosy in the village has disappeared. This is thanks to our partners, ALEMO.

Venancio has also benefitted from our Livelihoods and Food Security Project in



Katapua. Until that project he had been using traditional farming methods, which led to loss of crops and a bad quality yield. At the training he learnt about mulching and not burning the field, planting in rows, and thinning the plants.

He also joined the savings group, which encourages him to put aside some of his income and allows him micro-credits when he is in need. One of the best aspects of the savings group is the community emergency fund, which is funded by members' contributions and supports those who are ill so they can travel to hospital and access treatment.

Thanks to these initiatives, Venancio can now afford to send his son to boarding school in Pemba. He says being able to give his son a good education is the biggest benefit of these projects for him.





## FINLAND

*"And remember! I will be with you always, to the end of the age."*

Matthew 28.20



**T**LM Finland's team are volunteers who work to raise awareness of leprosy and people affected by leprosy. Their supporters sustain the work of the Mission through prayers and donations. These funds are used to fund work in South Kivu in DR Congo.

The TLM Finland team produce newsletters and magazines in both Swedish and Finnish, which are sent to subscribers and churches throughout the country. They also visit churches and schools to increase engagement in the work to defeat leprosy.

They continue to reach out to younger donors and develop their online materials. They are always looking for new partners with whom they can work.

**Top:** Board Members, Vice-chair Marja Aho and Bo Ekman, at work.

1-7 NOV

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Pray that new fundraising efforts will result in more individuals and churches wanting to support people affected by leprosy.

**TUE:** Give thanks to God for the Board members and volunteers who freely give of their time and expertise, and pray that they will stay motivated.

**WED:** Give thanks for many faithful donors in Finland, both individuals and churches, some of whom have been offering prayers and donations for many years.

**THU:** The Board plans to reach a wider support base amongst younger generations. Pray for guidance, wisdom, and fresh outreach ideas. Pray for the development of online campaigns.

**FRI:** Pray for renewal among the Christians of the world.

**SAT/SUN:** Pray and give thanks for The Leprosy Mission's Global Fellowship, its Members, staff, and diverse projects and programmes. Pray for leprosy affected people and their families.

### KEY STAFF

Ms. Eija Kilpi – Chair of the Board  
Ms. Marja Aho – Vice chair  
Ms. Ritva Pohti – National Director /Secretary

## BANGLADESH – LEPROSY CONTROL AND RESEARCH

8-14 NOV



**T**hrough leprosy control and research, TLM projects address more than just the physical needs of people affected by leprosy and work towards a leprosy-free Bangladesh.

The aims of the leprosy control programmes are to ensure quality leprosy services, to raise awareness, to stop the transmission of leprosy, and to prevent disability.

TLM Bangladesh has been undertaking research programmes on Zero Transmission, Zero Disability and Zero Discrimination for decades. Currently, our focus is on Zero Transmission through preventive strategies across the country and through work to develop an early diagnostic tool. We are searching for an effective drug to reduce ENL reactions (painful nodules and inflammation) and related disabilities.

We are also encouraging local researchers and institutions to engage in social research that may contribute to eliminating the barriers against social integration, quality treatment, and stigma reduction.

### KEY STAFF

Dr Abu Sufian Chowdhury – Research Coordinator, TLM Bangladesh  
Mr. Khorshed Alam - Project Manager, Leprosy Field Research and Leprosy Control, RHP  
Mr. George Biswas - Project Manager, Proyash and MEPD  
Mr. Parach Chakma - Project Manager, Chottogram Hill Tracts Leprosy Control and Rehabilitation Project (CHTP)  
Mr. Sultan Md. Elias - Project Manager, Chottogram Leprosy Management Project (CLMP)

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Please pray that the Leprosy Control Programmes of TLM Bangladesh will be able to continue active case finding initiatives and provide quality treatment for leprosy patients in the difficult aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**TUE:** Please pray for the continued cooperation of the Government Health Department, that they will commit to providing leprosy services despite the social and economic impact of the pandemic.

**WED:** Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, very few people affected by leprosy came to DBLM Hospital for much-needed care and complication management. Please pray for God's mercy and help for the people who could not access the hospital, many of whom will feel the impact of this delayed treatment for a long time.

**THU:** TLM Bangladesh (in partnership with the Bombay Leprosy Project, India) is studying whether additional Clofazimine (one of the drugs in MDT) will improve the outcome for people at risk of developing ENL. Please pray for the success of this research project.

**FRI:** Please pray for adequate funding for our research work in Bangladesh. We are the largest leprosy field research centre in the world capable of large population studies to test interventions such as a field-friendly diagnostic tests and new drugs for leprosy and reactions. This is vital research that will push us towards our goal of seeing leprosy defeated.

**SAT/SUN:** Universities, Medical Colleges, and organisations of people affected by leprosy are conducting social research on leprosy at a low cost with support from TLM Bangladesh. TLM Bangladesh has plans to initiate new research in 2021. Please pray that the institutions continue to conduct social research that will contribute to removing barriers against social integration, quality treatment, and stigma reduction.

**Top:** Processing blood samples in our laboratory at DBLM Hospital.



## ENGLAND AND WALES

15–21 NOV

*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.*

2 Corinthians 5:20



At The Leprosy Mission England and Wales, we are proud to be known as ambassadors for Christ, partnering with others who are equally passionate about sharing the needs of people affected by leprosy. This includes supporters, office volunteers, Vice Presidents, Ambassadors and many more who share one vision: to see the end of leprosy in our lifetime.

At a team prayer day in 2020, God reminded us that we will be blessed when we are mindful of the needs of the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind. (Luke 14). We are humbled to be part of the body of Christ, committed to serving those in marginalised and poor communities around the world.

### KEY STAFF

Peter Waddup - TLMEW Country Leader  
Sian Arulanantham - Head of Programmes and Policy  
Arinda O'Reilly - HR Manager  
Louise Timmins - Head of Fundraising  
Andy Lancaster - Chair of Trustees

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Praise God for the talents and skills of the Trustees who give their time to serve the team of England and Wales. As Andy Lancaster settles in as our new Chair of the Board, pray for continued wisdom and for unity as our Trustees continue to guide the future of the work.

**TUE:** Give thanks for our relationship with Alice Cruz, the UN Human Rights Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against people with leprosy. Pray for new and impactful opportunities to work together towards our goal of zero discrimination against people affected by leprosy.

**WED:** We are blessed with an amazing group of dedicated Vice Presidents and Ambassadors who raise awareness and financial support for our work. Pray that, through their influence and media profiles, we can reach many new supporters for people affected by leprosy.

**THU:** We are thankful for the selfless volunteering of thousands of people who give time to help the England and Wales team in various ways. Help from church representatives, volunteer speakers, office volunteers and interns is invaluable. Pray for God's blessing in all that they do.

**FRI:** Without our thousands of faithful supporters, we will never achieve our goal of ending leprosy. Give God thanks for every one of them and pray they know how much God loves their heart for people affected by leprosy.

**SAT/SUN:** Praise God for the amazing team working together at England and Wales. Give thanks for their dedication, focus and talents used to serve the needs of our overseas partners and people affected by leprosy. Despite the busyness, pray they remember to take time out to seek God's will in all that they plan and do.

**Top:** Vice Presidents Pam Rhodes and Bishop Donald Allister visiting projects in Bangladesh in January 2020.

## NEPAL – ANANDABAN HOSPITAL AND TRAINING CENTRE

22–28 NOV

*You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.*

Matthew 5:14



Anandaban Hospital is located in southern Lalitpur (on the outskirts of Kathmandu). Every year the hospital receives a large number of leprosy referrals from all over Nepal and from over the border in India. In addition to leprosy patients, it caters to the general public as well. Its outpatient department is renowned for quality orthopaedic and dermatology services, which serve the general community of southern Lalitpur and beyond.

TLM Nepal's Training and Technical Support Centre, equipped with a residential training facility, provides extensive leprosy and other Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) training sessions, building the capacity of Nepal's Government health staff, national and international medical students, doctors, and community level volunteers. TLMN also supports the Nepali Government's national leprosy elimination programme through case validation, joint supervision, and monitoring of its programmes.

### KEY STAFF

Dr Mahesh Shah - Acting Medical Director  
Dr Pradip Sapkota - Medical Superintendent  
Mr Sher Gurung - Hospital Administrator  
Sr Mahima Bantawa - Nursing Superintendent  
Dr Deanna Hagge - Director (Mycobacterial Research Laboratories)  
Mr Gopal Hari Pokhrel - Training Coordinator

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Let us pray for the protection of Anandaban Hospital from natural disasters i.e. floods and landslides. Pray for recovery from the massive funding crisis caused by Covid-19, when our local income dropped significantly for many months. Pray for the safety of Anandaban Hospital's kitchen staff and drivers.

**TUE:** Pray for the smooth operation of hospital work and for the staff who are living in the hospital compound. There are also patients who are staying in hospital for a long time. Please pray for their inner healing.

**WED:** Many patients affected by leprosy are not able to seek medical treatment due to several reasons, the major ones being stigma and a lack of awareness about the disease. As we support them in providing quality medical care, please pray that we can give them our continuous support. Pray also for the affected people so that they will come in time for early diagnosis. Pray against further disabilities, stigma, and discrimination.

**THU:** Pray for smooth coordination between our Training Unit and the Ministry of Health and Population. Pray for the renewal of the TLM Training Centre with the Nepali Government's Division of Health Services. Pray for the successful implementation of the five-year training plan (2020 to 2024) which aims for sustainable leprosy training amongst health professionals.

**FRI:** Pray for the timely completion of our Trauma Centre construction project and for the safety and security of all workers. Pray that we will be able to find qualified people who are committed and motivated to work in a faith-based organisation like TLM.

**SAT/SUN:** Thank God for the exchange programme between TLM Nepal, TLM Bangladesh and TLM Myanmar, funded by NOREC in Norway. Pray for capacity building and skills development of participants.

**Top:** Phulti's family sent her to live in a cave when she received her leprosy diagnosis. She was forced to beg for food. She used to cry a lot. Now she receives treatment, support, and community at Anandaban Hospital.

## AUSTRALIA

29 NOV–5 DEC

*And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.*

Hebrews 13:16



Since 1913, Australians have been sharing the vision to see “Leprosy defeated, Lives transformed”. Often from an early age, Aussie supporters have a heart for reaching out to people affected by leprosy, as Jesus did. From saving their pennies in boxes to now often giving sacrificially from their wages or pension. They see their giving as an act of worship to God.

Aussie Christian supporters are dedicated to rolling up their sleeves and digging deep into their pockets to lend a hand to provide healing and hope. Very practical and personal in their support, they pray, volunteer, donate and leave gifts in Wills. This year they will celebrate Giving Tuesday by making it a Giving Shoes Day; empowering people disabled by leprosy to walk again by providing protective shoes.

Australians want to see a world where no one suffers from any curable disease.

### SENIOR STAFF

Sheldon Rankin – Chief Executive Officer  
Geraldine Toh – Finance Manager  
Andrew Newmarch – International Programmes Manager  
Paul Andrews – Marketing Manager  
Tim Collison – Engagement Manager  
Tina Mitchell – Customer Service Manager  
Nerida Collard – Executive Assistant

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Praise God for the generosity of supporters in Australia. May He bless volunteers, financial supporters, and prayer partners. Ask Him to transform Australian supporters, as they bless people affected by leprosy.

**TUE:** This month The Leprosy Mission Australia runs a “Save 10,000 Soles Campaign”. This is a multi-channel campaign to connect with new supporters and provide protective shoes for people affected by leprosy. Please pray the Holy Spirit will inspire people to give through this campaign.

**WED:** This is the second year of The Leprosy Mission Australia’s five-year strategy. The first strategic aim is to be Christ-centred. All the other strategic aims flow from it. Please pray supporters, staff and volunteers will keep their eyes fixed on Christ.

**THU:** Many people leave a gift in their Will for people affected by leprosy. These equip The Leprosy Mission Australia to carry out its work. Give thanks for these dedicated supporters. Pray God will inspire more supporters to leave a gift in their Will – even if just one percent of their estate!

**FRI:** Many churches and community groups in Australia support people affected by leprosy. Give thanks for them. Please pray God will continue to raise up more groups to partner with The Leprosy Mission Australia.

**SAT/SUN:** There are strong relationships between the volunteer Board and National Council and the staff team. Praise God for these strong bonds. Please pray they continue to work together for the benefit of people affected by leprosy and bring glory to God.

**Top:** Sheldon Rankin, CEO of The Leprosy Mission Australia, welcomes Amar Timalina, a person affected by leprosy and member of The Leprosy Mission’s Global Fellowship Board.

## RESEARCH

6–12 DEC



Research is key to achieving our vision of Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed. In 2020, we listed six research priorities to focus on:

1. Understanding and prevention of transmission
2. Early diagnostic tests
3. Leprosy reactions and neuritis
4. Detection, monitoring and treatment of secondary impairments
5. Inner wellbeing, mental health and stigma
6. The impact of the UN Principles and Guidelines on Persons Affected by Leprosy (Human rights instrument)

The Leprosy Mission’s research covers a wide range of areas. Our world-class laboratories (Mycobacterial Research Laboratories at Anandaban Hospital, Nepal and the Stanley Browne Laboratory in Delhi, India) collaborate with other laboratories across the world.

Our hospitals and community programmes are testing new ways to manage leprosy and its complications, including the social, mental, and emotional complications. We are excited about new innovations in managing wounds and the mental wellbeing of people affected by leprosy and other NTDs.

### SENIOR STAFF

#### TLM International Research Committee

Prof. Warwick Britton (Chair) - University of Sydney, Australia  
Dr Paul Saunderson - American Leprosy Missions  
Prof. Diana Lockwood - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine  
Prof. Jan Hendrik Richardus - Erasmus University, The Netherlands  
Prof. Pushpendra Singh – ICMR - National Institute of Research in Tribal Health, Jabalpur, MP, India.

#### Senior Research Staff

Dr. Abu Sufian Chowdhury - TLM Bangladesh  
Dr. Deanna Hagge - TLM Nepal  
Dr. Joydeepa Darlong - TLM Trust India

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Our research laboratories are as busy as ever. 2020 was a challenging year as we coped with Covid-19 on top of our routine work. Several of our senior staff are approaching retirement age and we need to replace them with high calibre scientists. Ask God to guide us to the right people.

**TUE:** TLM Trust India’s research covers many topics, including addressing transmission, diagnostics, child leprosy, disability, mental health, community resilience and complication management. Pray for committed staff and resources and favour as we submit funding applications to research grant agencies

**WED:** Give thanks for the promotion of Dr Abu Sufian Chowdhury to the position of research coordinator for TLM Bangladesh. He and his team are busy with several studies. Pray for the success of a major study which is field testing a diagnostic tool to detect leprosy before physical signs develop.

**THU:** TLM Nepal’s research focus also covers all strategic priorities, combining clinical, social and/or laboratory aspects. Pray for ongoing and developing clinical trials of drugs to treat leprosy reactions. New treatments are needed that are without risk of serious side effects and can prevent permanent nerve damage and disability development.

**FRI:** TLM continues to seek new innovations for old problems. Pray for the multi-country study that is testing new ways to heal chronic wounds. If successful, it will change how wounds are managed all over the world – not just for leprosy, but for other diseases, such as diabetes and Buruli Ulcer.

**SAT/SUN:** Our research can only make an impact if we publish it. Pray that we can continue to share our research in peer-reviewed journals, at conferences and at scientific meetings, as well as translate research into practice.

**Top:** Researchers at our Stanley Browne Laboratory in India.





The Leprosy Mission Trust India's (TLMTI) Advocacy and Communication work supports people affected by leprosy to speak out on the issues important to them, thus defending and safeguarding their rights, and ensuring their voice is heard by policymakers.

TLMTI engages with strategic partners at state and national levels to highlight the issues faced by people affected by leprosy, through strategic communication and targeting negative attitudes and practices.

TLMTI's advocacy work addresses the barriers faced by people affected by leprosy by influencing policies and practices involving those affected by leprosy and other disabilities. TLMTI uses innovative communication methods to influence social knowledge and attitudes on leprosy and other disabilities.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** There are over 100 laws in India that discriminate against persons affected by leprosy. These laws violate their human rights, such as the right to participate in political life, the right to inclusion, and the right to freedom of movement. Pray for the Government to prioritise these issues and repeal all discriminatory laws in a collaborative way.

**TUE:** Champions are great influencers and the voice of their communities. Pray for God's continued guidance and direction as we facilitate the capacity building of champions and provide forums to speak out and advocate.

**WED:** A lot of work has been achieved with the help of strategic partners. Pray for new strategic partnerships to be built and old partnerships to be strengthened.

**THU:** Collaboration and communication within TLMTI units is crucial and important as we roll out advocacy plans and campaigns. Pray for seamless interaction, strengthened relationships, and deeper understanding. Especially pray as all TLMTI units work on implementing affirmative actions and policies in their own states.

**FRI:** The Advocacy and Communications team has to develop creative ideas and vibrant and strong internal and external communications messages on different media platforms. Pray for the team to be strengthened with new members and great ideas. Pray for the success of all initiatives.

**SAT/SUN:** Good government relations are very important as we implement our work. We need to build and strengthen relations with other Ministries. Pray for God's guidance and favour with each Ministry and for them to acknowledge and appreciate the work of TLMTI and work closely with us as we demonstrate our value as a partner.

**Top:** The National Consultation on the Concluding Observations of the CRPD Committee where TLMTI, along with champions developed by TLMTI and members of Disabled Peoples' Organisations and Civil Society Organisations participated.

For a full list of staff in India, turn to p84

*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

Proverbs 31: 8-9



All over the world people affected by leprosy have their human rights stripped away. They are turned away from schools, from jobs, from housing, from family, and from community. All this is because of stigma. There is no good reason to turn anyone away because of leprosy.

Our work to change this is a continuation and an evolution of the words from Proverbs 31:8-9. We use our voices to speak up for people affected by leprosy, but we also train, encourage, and work with people affected by leprosy so they can have opportunities to speak for themselves.

This work has had a dramatic impact in recent years, as a community whose voices are often rejected by their own families and local communities are now being heard at the highest levels of international and national government. Together we are fighting to get back those rights that have been stolen.

**Top:** Steven is a person affected by leprosy who is an advocate for other people affected by leprosy in Papua New Guinea. (© Daniel Christiansz)

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** The Covid-19 pandemic placed a lot of pressure on governments. That pressure is being felt in some places even today. Our teams and partners are encouraging governments worldwide to maintain their support for people affected by leprosy, even as there are new pressures facing national budgets and priorities as a result of Covid-19 and the subsequent economic slump. Pray that these conversations will be fruitful.

**TUE:** Our teams are working on projects across the world that provide training for people affected by leprosy so that they can advocate on their own behalf with local and national governments. Pray for those people affected by leprosy, that they may have courage and skill as they speak out. Pray that their efforts will succeed.

**WED:** Please pray for policymakers around the world. There are many difficult decisions facing them each day and their work is challenging. Pray for wisdom and good decision-making. Pray that they will remember people affected by leprosy when they are making decisions.

**THU:** Please remember Alice Cruz in your prayers. Alice is the UN's Special Rapporteur for leprosy. Her work is vital in holding governments to account and encouraging them to provide or change policies so that people affected by leprosy are cared for. Pray for her work, that it will be successful and she will see the best ways she can make a difference.

**FRI:** We have staff worldwide who are speaking out and conducting The Leprosy Mission's advocacy work as we work to the Mission's advocacy strategy for 2019-23. Pray that we will achieve the goals of the strategy, including our fight to repeal all laws that discriminate against people affected by leprosy.

**SAT/SUN:** Please pray that all of our advocacy work is successful and that it will achieve its ultimate goals: the end of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and an end to leprosy transmission and disability.

## OUR CHRIST-CENTRED WORK

27–31 DEC

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.*

John 10:10



In 2019, The Leprosy Mission began working according to a new Global Strategy. This strategy encouraged us to work towards zero leprosy transmission, disability, and discrimination. But, right at the centre of the strategy is a call to be Christ-centred in all that we do.

“Integral Mission” is the term used in the Global Strategy to describe this. We can think of “being Christ-centred” as our aim and of “integral mission” as the way we put this aim into practice. This means bringing life in all its fullness to people affected by leprosy. Our approach is holistic, so we work on medical healing, community-based rehabilitation, economic self-sufficiency, inner wellbeing, social inclusion, and an encounter with the love of Christ.

### PRAYER POINTS

**MON:** Thank God for giving this opportunity to be his hands on this Earth. Pray with us that our work will become increasingly holistic and Christ-centred in every aspect.

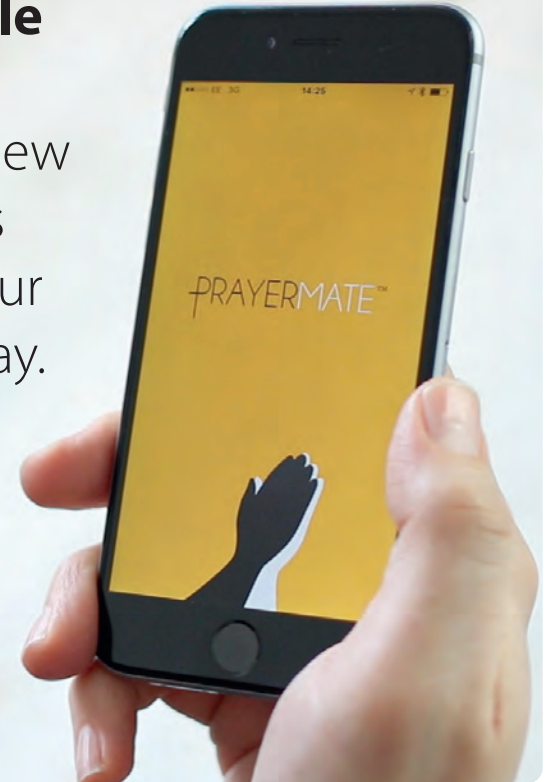
**TUE:** Pray for the members of our Spiritual Ministry Working Group, who lead the spiritual direction of The Leprosy Mission. Pray that God will guide their work as they lead our Global Fellowship closer to him.

**WED:** Pray for God’s sustaining power in the life of the Mission. Pray that our staff, volunteers, and partners will be encouraged by this power and motivated by being a part of this Kingdom work.

**THU:** Remember in your prayers all of those TLM staff members who are working on the front line with people affected by leprosy. They are modelling God’s love amongst some of the most vulnerable people in the world. Pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire their actions.

**FRI:** Pray for our newly appointed ‘Integral Mission Country Link Persons’ as they seek to promote Integral Mission and Christ-centredness within their country programmes and with their colleagues and partners. Thank God for the churches that mobilised to support people affected by leprosy throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. The actions of those churches were incredibly powerful.

**Pray for people affected by leprosy** with new prayer requests available on your phone every day.



No matter when or where you are, if you are struck by an inspiration to pray for people affected by leprosy, you can do so by following The Leprosy Mission on the PrayerMate app.

[praynow4.org/leprosymission](https://praynow4.org/leprosymission)

**Top:** A sign on the wall of our partner hospital in Niger, “Jesus gives life”.





# Pastor Elisha's story

Pastor Elisha became a Christian about 35 years ago. Now he is the leader of a leprosy colony in India and a champion for our CREATE project.

The CREATE project runs in four districts in India. The project develops the capacity of people affected by leprosy to become agents of change as they address the issues of leprosy-related stigma and discrimination. The project also offers training and employment opportunities to help people affected by leprosy earn a living.

Pastor Elisha is married to a leprosy-affected person and lives in the colony with his children and grandchildren. He is very proud of what he is doing through the CREATE project,

*"I never dreamt or imagined that I could have achieved such a status."*

Before the project he was an individual coordinator and he had some influence and could give help and services to his local community, but with CREATE the opportunity to influence at the state or even country level has become far greater. He is better placed to bring about change for people affected by leprosy.

When his children were younger they were not allowed to go to school because people thought they would be affected by leprosy. Now as a champion through the CREATE

*"I never dreamt or imagined that I could have achieved such a status."*

project he is able to contest the schooling rights of children from leprosy backgrounds, including his own grandchildren, so that they can attend Government schools.

*"We still have to fight for such things, but because we are aware of our rights, the villagers can challenge the Government and, with the success and experience gained to date, fight their cause successfully."*

Pastor Elisha continues to pray and dream of a world when leprosy-affected families could be fully integrated into non-leprosy affected communities.

With the work that Pastor Elisha and others like him are doing through the CREATE project, we are bringing more and more people affected by leprosy out from the margins. Together we are transforming lives.







## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

### PRAYER

One of the most powerful gifts you can give us is prayer. By using this diary, you've done that, so thank you.

### GIVING

Our work receives substantial funding from individual donors – just like you – with 36 percent of our funding coming from people giving out of their own pockets, through regular giving and one-off donations.

The money you give today can help to end leprosy and transform lives across the world.

### VOLUNTEERING

Our army of volunteers across the world are having a huge impact and there are lots of volunteering opportunities in many of the countries that we work in.

### LEAVING A LEGACY

Around 15 percent of our income comes through people who leave a legacy in their Will.

We believe that we are just 15 years away from ending leprosy transmission. If you would like that to be your legacy, include The Leprosy Mission in your Will today.

### SHOP

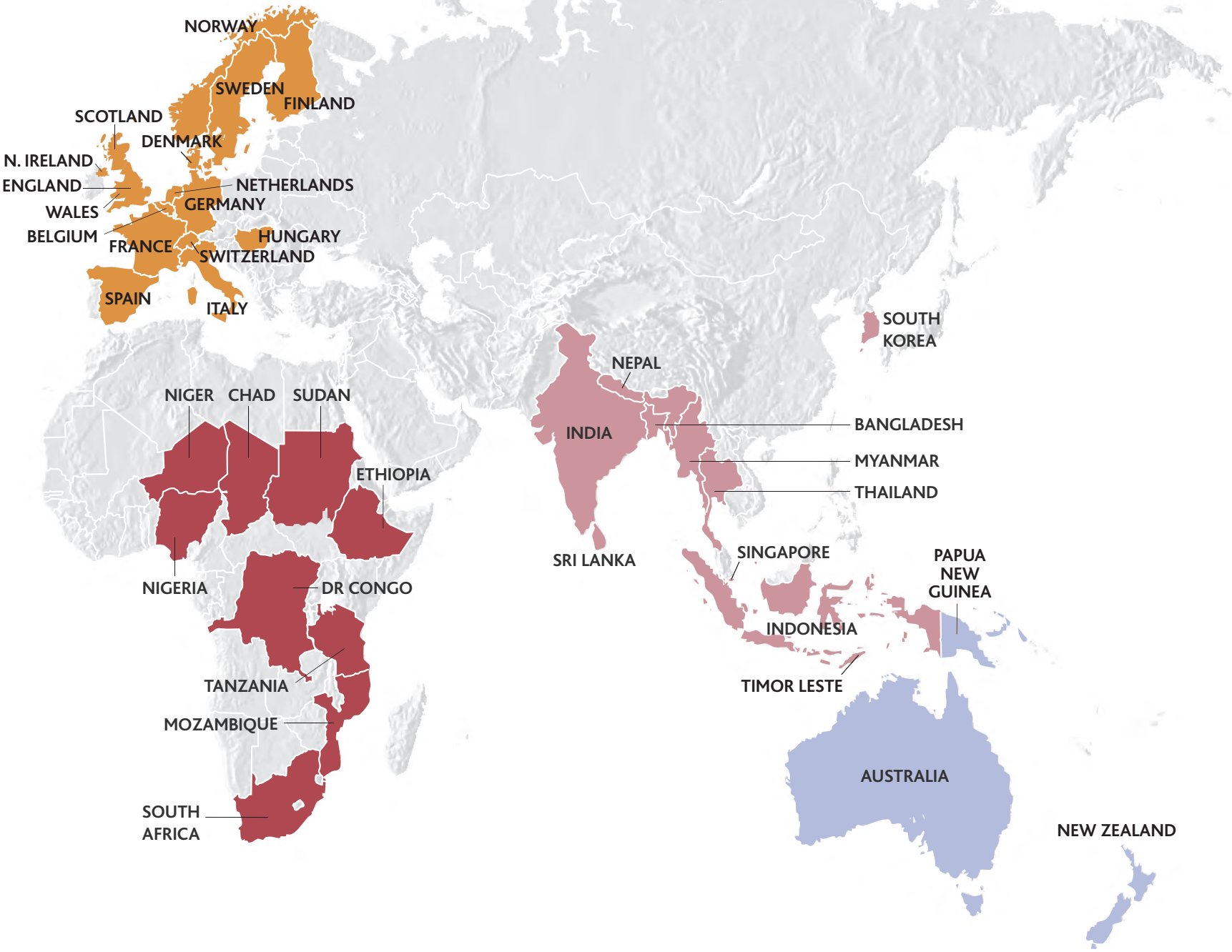
Visit [tlmtrading.com](http://tlmtrading.com) or [leprosymission.org.au/shop](http://leprosymission.org.au/shop) to find gifts, books, crafts, homeware, and tasty treats. The proceeds from the sales on these websites are funnelled back into our work to defeat leprosy and transform lives.

Find out how to give, volunteer, or leave a legacy today by finding the website and contact details of The Leprosy Mission in your country. Find their details on pages 86-87.

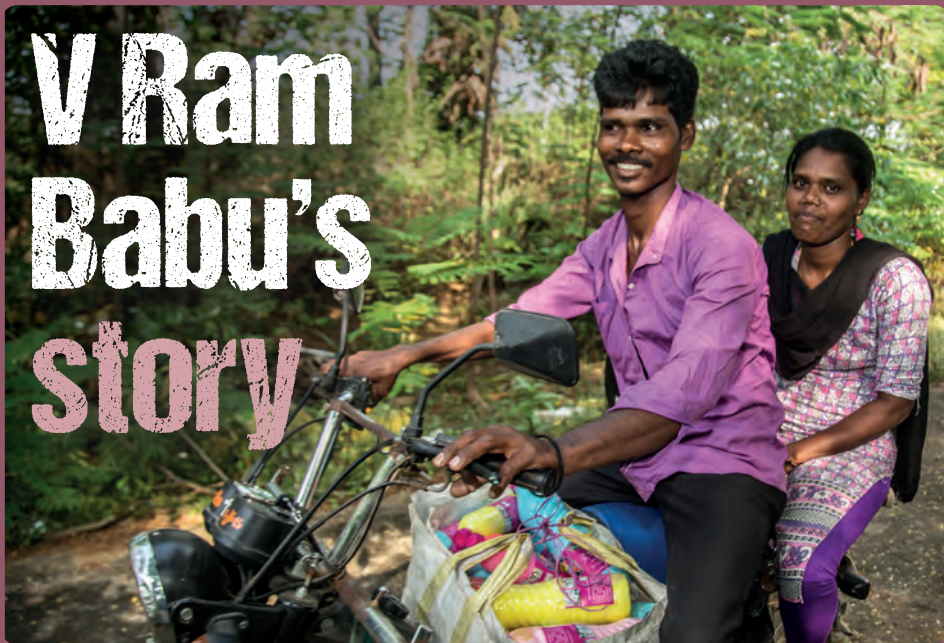


# WHERE WE WORK

The Leprosy Mission believes that strength comes from unity, working together towards a common goal. We work hand-in-hand with governments and with local communities, with partner NGOs, local churches, WHO, Christian partners and many others to bring about the defeat of leprosy and transformation in the lives of people affected. Together we provide treatment and care for anyone living with the effects of leprosy in 18 countries across Asia, Africa and the Pacific. This would not be possible without the support of hundreds of thousands of people around the world that have responded to this call.



# V Ram Babu's story



An important part of our work is ensuring that people affected by leprosy are a part of wider disability support programmes, and vice-versa. In India, many of our projects aimed to support people affected by leprosy also welcome people with other disabilities.

V Ram Babu has been affected by polio since his early childhood. It has left his leg and hand immobile and he had to drop out of school because of his disabilities.

Thanks to our team in India, V Ram Babu learned to make cleaning products. He taught the same to his wife, Durga, and together they started a new venture. Now they sell these cleaning profits to earn a living for themselves.

With the money they've been able to make, they've moved from their humble origins to a point where they can buy a scooter, a fridge, and a TV.

It's far from an easy ride for V Ram Babu and his wife. They start their day at 4am as they take their scooter to work. The villages where they sell are far off and many people leave early for work. When they get home V Ram Babu goes to work at the small tea shop that he runs.

Projects like these allow us to break down the barriers surrounding people affected by leprosy, but they also allow us to provide vital support to other marginalised persons with disabilities.

## YOUR LOVE LIVING ON IN THE NAME OF JESUS

► **Leaving a gift in your Will** is an opportunity for you to make an impact for generations to come, as together we can bring God's Kingdom here on earth for the least, the last, and the looked over.

We know that you share our dream of a world free from the devastating effects of leprosy – will you help us to continue working passionately to make that dream a reality with a gift in your Will?

**To find out more about leaving a gift in your Will, please contact The Leprosy Mission's office in your country (see pages 86-7)**





# COUNTRY CONTACT DETAILS

## International Office

80 Windmill Road  
Brentford  
Middlesex TW8 0QH  
UK  
**Tel:** +44 (0)20 8326 6767  
**Email:** reception@leprosymission.org  
**Website:** leprosymission.org

## TLM Trading Ltd

Goldhay Way  
Orton Goldhay  
Peterborough PE2 5GZ  
UK  
**Tel:** +44 (0) 1733 239252  
**Email:** enquiries@tlmtrading.com  
**Website:** tlmtrading.com

## Australia

The Leprosy Mission Australia  
37 Ellingworth Parade  
Box Hill, Victoria  
Australia 3128  
**Tel:** +61 3 9890 0577  
**Email:** hello@leprosymission.org.au  
**Website:** leprosymission.org.au  
The Leprosy Mission Australia Shop  
37 Ellingworth Parade  
Box Hill, Victoria  
Australia 3128  
**Tel:** +61 3 9890 0577  
**Email:** shop@leprosymission.org.au  
**Website:** leprosymission.org.au/shop

## Bangladesh

The Leprosy Mission International-  
Bangladesh  
House-483, Road-32  
Mohakhali New DOHS  
Dhaka-1206, Bangladesh  
**Tel:** +88(2)9882058, 9881620,  
9846395  
**Email:** dco@tlmbangladesh.org  
**Website:** tlmbangladesh.org

## Belgium

TLM Belgium  
**Tel:** +32 474 471 856  
**Email:** tlm.belgium@gmail.com  
**Website:** tlmbelgium.org

## Chad

The Leprosy Mission Chad  
Mission Evangélique Contre la Lèpre  
(MECL)

Quartier Taradona  
Am Timan / Salamat  
Chad  
**Tel:** 00235 66480913 / 98187190  
**Email:** geeske.zijp@gmail.com

## Denmark

TLM Denmark  
Spedalskshedsmissionen  
Peter Bangs Vej 5B  
2000 Frederiksberg  
Denmark  
**Tel:** +45 3529 4254  
**Email:** info@spedalsk.dk  
**Website:** spedalsk.dk

## DR Congo

The Leprosy Mission Congo  
283, Avenue Kato  
Commune de Lingwala  
Kinshasa  
B.P. 14.347  
Kinshasa 1, DRC  
**Tel:** +243 (0) 99 34 44 584

## England, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man

The Leprosy Mission England and  
Wales  
Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay,  
Peterborough PE2 5GZ  
UK  
**Tel:** +44 (0) 1733 370505  
**Email:** post@TLMEW.org.uk  
**Website:** leprosymission.org.uk

## Ethiopia

The Leprosy Mission International  
Ethiopia  
PO Box 30480  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Tel:** +251 113 698 235  
**Email:** beletshachew@tlmethiopia.org

## Finland

TLM Finland  
Uotinmäentie 9 B 12  
00970 Helsinki, Finland  
**Tel:** +358 04497 08615  
**Email:** rkpohti@gmail.fi

## France

3 Square de Megève  
95380 LOUVRES  
France

**Tel:** 0033+ 7 83 85 74 95  
**Email:** contact@missionlepre.org  
**Website:** missionlepre.org

## Germany

The Leprosy Mission Germany  
Lepra-Mission e.V.  
In der Halde 1  
75365 Calw, Germany  
**Tel:** +49 (0) 1575 2590 217  
**Email:** lepramission@gmail.com  
**Website:** lepramission.de

## Hungary

1151 Budapest  
Alag u 3, Hungary  
**Tel:** 0036-30 6384736  
**Email:** info@lepramisszio.hu  
**Website:** lepramisszio.hu

## India

The Leprosy Mission Trust India  
CNI Bhavan  
16, Pandit Pant Marg  
New Delhi - 110 001, India  
**Tel:** +91 (0) 11 4353 3300  
**Email:** info@leprosymission.in  
**Website:** leprosymission.in

## Indonesia

enquiries@leprosymission.org.nz

## Italy

Str. S. Pietrino 1/b  
06129 Perugia (I), Italy  
**Tel:** +39 07550 58352  
**Email:** info@missionelebbra.org  
**Website:** missionelebbra.org

## Mozambique

The Leprosy Mission Mozambique  
C. Postal: 138, Pemba  
Cabo Delgado Province  
Mozambique  
**Tel:** +258 84 626 7503  
**Email:** ariedk@tlmmoz.org

## Myanmar

The Leprosy Mission Myanmar  
No. 12/K, Pyi Thu Lane  
7th Mile, Pyay Road  
Mayangone Township  
Yangon, Myanmar  
**Tel:** +95 1 666851  
**Email:** zmaung@tlmmyanmar.org

## Nepal

TLM Nepal Country Office  
Satdobato-Chapagaun Road  
Talchikhel, Lalitpur  
Nepal  
Postal Address: P.O. Box 151  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
**Tel:** : +977-1-5151371

## Netherlands

Postal address: Post box 902  
7301 BD Apeldoorn, Netherlands  
Visiting address: Arnhemseweg 17331  
BA Apeldoorn, Netherlands  
**Tel:** +31 (0) 55 76 00 500  
**Email:** info@leprazending.nl  
**Website:** leprazending.nl

## New Zealand

PO Box 96262  
Balmoral  
Auckland 1342  
New Zealand  
**Tel:** +64 9 623 1865  
**Email:** enquiries@leprosymission.org.nz  
**Website:** leprosymission.org.nz

## Niger Republic

The Leprosy Mission Niger  
TLM-Niger Office  
Kouara - Kano  
Rue KK - 02  
BP844, Niamey  
Niger Republic  
**Tel:** +227 2035 1128  
**Mobile:** +227 96970172  
**Email:** bunmio@tlmniger.org

## Nigeria

The Leprosy Mission Nigeria  
12/14 Kings Drive  
Fort Royal Homes Estate - Lugbe  
P.M.B. 494  
Area 10, Garki  
F.C.T. Abuja, Nigeria  
**Tel:** +234 (81) 1791 8420  
**Email:** office@tlm-nigeria.org  
officetlmn@gmail.com  
**Website:** leprosymissionnig.org

## Northern Ireland

TLM Northern Ireland  
Lagan House  
2a Queens Road  
Lisburn BT27 4TZ  
Northern Ireland

**Tel:** +44 (0) 28 9262 9500  
**Email:** info@tlni.org  
**Website:** tlni.org

## Papua New Guinea

Unit 7, Wapil Crest Apartments  
Budoa St, East Boroko  
PO Box 3041, Boroko 111  
National Capital District, PNG  
**Tel:** +675 7377 9974  
**Email:** tlmpng2016@gmail.com

## Republic of Korea

31 Duryugongwon-ro 28gil  
Dalseo-gu  
Daegu  
Rep. of Korea (42670)  
**Tel:** +82 (53) 623 1001  
**Email:** tlmkoreaayc@hotmail.com

## Scotland

The Leprosy Mission Scotland  
Suite 2, Earlsgate Lodge  
Livlands Lane  
Stirling FK8 2BG  
UK  
**Tel:** +44 (0) 1786 449 266  
**Email:** contactus@leprosymission.scot  
**Website:** leprosymission.scot

## Singapore

TSLM Ltd.  
Tampines Central Post Office  
PO Box 181  
915207  
Singapore  
**Tel:** +65 96543752  
**Email:** ksseow@yahoo.com

## South Africa

The Leprosy Mission South Africa  
PO Box 46002  
Orange Grove, 2119  
South Africa  
**Tel:** + 27 (11) 440 6323  
**Email:** peter@tlm.co.za  
**Website:** leprosymission.co.za

## Spain

Misión Evang. Contra La Lepra  
Apartado De Correos, 51332  
E-CP 28080 Madrid, Spain  
**Tel:** +34 910 075 213  
**Email:** mclalepra@gmail.com  
**Website:** misioncontralalepra.es

## Sudan

PO Box 15079, Amarat  
Khartoum, Sudan  
**Tel:** +249 912547080 (when in Sudan)  
**Email:** yousifd@tlmsudan.org

## Sweden

Lepramissionen – Sverige  
Mastgatan 2D  
SE 692 71 Kumla  
Sweden  
**Tel:** +46 (19) 583790  
**Email:** info@lepramissionen.se  
**Website:** lepramissionen.se

## Switzerland

The Leprosy Mission Switzerland  
*French speaking office:*  
Mission Évangélique contre la lèpre  
Route de Denges 38  
1027 Lonay  
Switzerland  
**Tel:** +41 (0)21 801 50 81  
**Email:** info@missionlepre.ch  
**Website:** missionlepre.ch  
*German speaking office:*  
Evangelische Lepra-Mission  
Bernstrasse 15A  
Postfach 175  
3360 Herzogenbuchsee  
Switzerland  
**Tel:** +41 (0)62 961 83 84  
**Email:** info@lepramission.ch  
**Website:** lepramission.ch

## Tanzania

DCT Hombolo Hospital  
P.O Box 301  
Dodoma-Tanzania  
**Tel:** +255718847464  
**Email:** michaeldebora2@gmail.com  
or dcthombololch@gmail.com

## Timor Leste

The Leprosy Mission Timor Leste  
Rua Lesibutak II, Fomento- Comoro  
PO Box 84  
Dili, Timor-Leste  
**Tel:** +670 331 0456 /76618000  
**Email:** nona.tlmtl@gmail.com

## INDIA SENIOR STAFF

There are more cases of leprosy in India than anywhere else in the world. Recent data suggest that 58% of global leprosy cases are in India. To reflect that, our team in India is, by some distance, the largest in the Global Fellowship.

To best celebrate the excellent efforts of the many people working in India, we've dedicated a special page to recognise as many people as we can.

### COUNTRYWIDE

#### Operations Team

Dr Mary Verghese, Executive Director  
Mr Abraham George, Director – Operations  
Mr Samuel V. Thomas, Director – Finance and Administration  
Dr Famkima Darlong, Head – Healthcare  
Mrs Tina Mendis, Head – Sustainable Livelihood and Community Empowerment  
Mrs Nikita Sarah, Head – Advocacy and Communication  
Dr Joydeepa Darlong, Head – Knowledge Management  
Mr Amit Kumar, Head – Fundraising  
Mr Melvin Moras, Head – Human Resource Management  
Mr Benison Solomon, Head – Audit and Risk Management  
Mr Joseph Thomas, Head – Finance

#### Programme Coordinators

Dr Ujjwal Hembrom, Coordinator – Hospitals  
Mr Karthikeyan G., Coordinator – Research  
Mr Babu G., Coordinator – Training  
Mr Vijayasekar G., Coordinator – Prevention and Management of Disability  
Mr Vijay Patta, Coordinator – Vocational Training  
Mr Sarvat Naqvi, Coordinator – Public Health

### COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION

Mrs Tina Mendis, Head – Sustainable Livelihood and Community Empowerment  
**Building Resilient Communities project:** Mr Harsha Gudasalamani, Mr Kismat Nanda, Mr James George, Programme Managers  
**Children Unite for Action project:** Mr Naushad Hasan, Programme Manager  
**College on Wheels project:** Mr. Vijay Patta, VTC Coordinator  
**Community Intervention Unit:** Ms M. Phoebe, Programme Manager  
**Inclusive Empowerment project:** Mr David Jaganathan, Mr G. Manivannan, Mr Ram Robert, Programme Managers  
**Jagruiti project:** Mrs Mangla Suresh Dhone, Deputy Programme Manager  
**Udaan project:** Mr Suresh Dhone, Programme Manager  
**Women as Change Agents project:** Ms Sneha Powar, Deputy Programme Manager

### ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

Mrs Nikita Sarah, Head - Advocacy and Communication  
Mr Jacob Oommen, Team Leader - Communication

### HEALTHCARE

Dr Famkima Darlong, Head – Healthcare  
**TLMTI Salur Hospital (Philadelphia Community Hospital), Andhra Pradesh:** Mr Surjit Pal, Superintendent  
**TLMTI Muzaffarpur Hospital, Bihar:** Dr Milind Chavan, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Champa Hospital (Bethesda Leprosy Home and Hospital), Chhattisgarh:** Dr Sandeep Kumar, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Chandkhuri Hospital, Chhattisgarh:** Dr Manotosh Elkana, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Shahdara Hospital, New Delhi:** Dr Rajeev Nathan, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Kothara Hospital (Kothara Community Hospital), Maharashtra:** Medical Superintendent (Vacant)  
**TLMTI Miraj Hospital (Richardson Leprosy Hospital)/ Disability Management and Training Hub, Maharashtra:** Dr Shirish Shegaonkar, In-charge/Senior Programme Manager  
**TLMTI Vadathorasalur Hospital, Tamil Nadu:** Dr Helen Roberts, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Dayapuram Hospital, Tamil Nadu:** Dr Suresh Herbert, Deputy Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Barabanki Hospital, Uttar Pradesh:** Dr Timothy Maximus, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Faizabad Hospital, Uttar Pradesh:** Mr Bino Berry, Superintendent  
**TLMTI Naini Hospital, Uttar Pradesh:** Dr Ruby Marshala, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Kolkata Hospital (Premananda Memorial Leprosy Hospital), West Bengal:** Mr Vijay Prathap, Superintendent  
**TLMTI Purulia Hospital (Purulia Leprosy Home and Hospital), West Bengal:** Dr Ujjwal Hembrom, Medical Superintendent  
**TLMTI Almora Clinic, Uttarakhand:** Mr Satyendra Mani, Deputy Superintendent  
**TLMTI Belgaum Clinic, Karnataka:** Dr Suresh Varghese, Medical Superintendent

### VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Mrs Tina Mendis, Head – Sustainable Livelihood and Community Empowerment  
**TLMTI Vizianagaram Vocational Training Centre (Platinum Vocational Training Centre), Andhra Pradesh:** Mr Vijay Patta, Principal and Coordinator – Vocational Training  
**TLMTI Champa Vocational Training Centre (Chhattisgarh Vocational Training Centre), Chhattisgarh:** Mr Mahendra Rao, Principal  
**TLMTI Nashik Vocational Training Centre, Maharashtra:** Mrs Shyla Francis, Principal  
**TLMTI Vadathorasalur Vocational Training Centre (Regional Vocational Training Centre), Tamil Nadu:** Mr Tinson Thomas, Principal  
**TLMTI Faizabad Vocational Training Centre (Wellesley Bailey Vocational Training Centre), Uttar Pradesh:** Mr Keshaba Thanapati, Vice Principal  
**TLMTI Bankura Vocational Training Centre (Bill Edgar Memorial Vocational Training Centre), West Bengal:** Mr Gabriel Pani, Principal

## GLOSSARY TERMS

ADT	Alliance Development Trust (partner organisation in Sri Lanka)
ALM	American Leprosy Missions
ALEMO	Association of People Affected by Leprosy in Mozambique (partner organisation in Mozambique)
CBR	Community-Based Rehabilitation
CRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability
DBLM	Danish-Bangladesh Leprosy Mission Hospital
DPI	Disabled Peoples' International
DPOs	Disabled Peoples' Organisations
ENL	Erythema Nodosum Leprosum (leprosy reaction with painful nodules and inflammation)
GPZL	Global Partnership for Zero Leprosy
IDEA	Integration, Dignity and Economic Advancement (association of persons affected by leprosy)
ILEP	International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations
KKM	Kaveri Kala Manram (partner organisation in Sri Lanka)
LRI	Leprosy Research Initiative
MDT	Multi-Drug Therapy (the treatment for leprosy)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations (such as TLM)
NLR	until No Leprosy Remains (a Dutch NGO, formerly known as Netherlands Leprosy Relief)
NNN	Neglected Tropical Diseases NGO Network
NTD	Neglected Tropical Diseases
PEP	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (a treatment that reduces the risk of developing leprosy after exposure to the disease)
SHGs	Self-Help Groups
TLM	The Leprosy Mission
VTCs	Vocational Training Centres



## THE LEPROSY MISSION'S GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER

On **Wednesday 12 May 2021**, The Leprosy Mission is hosting a worldwide day of prayer.

Prayer has always been essential to what we do and this year we are bringing our staff, supporters, volunteers, and partners together to unite in prayer for a world without leprosy.

**Find out how you can get involved by contacting The Leprosy Mission in your country (see p.86).**



# Our Vision: Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed

## **The Leprosy Mission Prayer**

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy. Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during his earthly life.

Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease. Give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients. Reunite the separated with their family and friends.

And inspire your people with the task set before The Leprosy Mission, that it may never lack the staff or the means to carry on its healing work, in accordance with your will, and to the glory of your holy name.

We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen



**@LeprosyMissInt**



**facebook.com/TheLeprosyMissionInternational**

**leprosymission.org**

A publication of The Leprosy Mission International