



April 2018

'Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;'
John 11v25

Sunday 1 April

Resurrection Sunday – Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3 Give thanks to the Lord for his everlasting love. He loved this world so much that He gave His only Son. Let us rejoice today and remember what Jesus has done for us on the cross with hearts of thankfulness.

Monday 2 April

Easter Monday – Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6. Praise for Jesus who died for us, overcame death and was resurrected. Let us celebrate this day with joy and thanksgiving!

Global Fellowship

Tuesday 3 April

Last month, 40 people from 15 Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship countries, including Gillian Whitley, LMNZ Executive Director, gathered for the

Annual Fundraising Conference in Brentford, UK. The purpose of the conference is to share knowledge and help one another to learn from experience. Praise God for a fruitful meeting. Pray that the Fellowship can work more closely together in sharing ideas and resources.

Wednesday 4 April

After going live with our Global ResourceSpace (an online platform to share digital resources amongst the Global Fellowship) in December last year, we are now moving into phase two. The International Office has brought in a ResourceSpace expert, Stephanie Roberts, to manage ResourceSpace and take it to the next level. Pray that ResourceSpace can be an effective platform in connecting the Fellowship and the Mission work.

Thursday 5 April

New Zealander Andrew Harding has taken over from Adrianna Bobba as the Global Programme Advisor for the Leprosy Mission International while Adrianna is taking her maternity leave. Andrew was the Programme Manager for LMNZ for many years. Pray for a smooth transitional period. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance as he takes up his new role.

Friday 6 April

The Leprosy Mission International renewed its website last year. Recently, the website has been shortlisted for Sitefinity's 'Website of the Year' award in the non-profit category. It is a fantastic opportunity to let more people know about the important cause that we all support. We give thanks for this recognition and for all the staff who designed and manage the website.

Saturday 7 April / Sunday 8 April

A key focus area for the Leprosy Mission International is the development of the Leadership Development Programme that will equip and encourage leaders to thrive in their roles. The first group have started the year's course in November last year. Pray for the God-given equipping of our leaders and the unleashing of their leadership potential.

Autumn *InTouch* Magazine

Monday 9 April

Pray for a positive response to the Autumn *inTouch*

Magazine which is currently being posted to supporters. Pray that the message can reach the wider New Zealand community. Pray also that the hearts of New Zealanders will be stirred into action with a willingness to support the work of the Leprosy Mission, in transforming the lives of those affected by leprosy.

Tuesday 10 April

Little Hasan was terrified when he realised the white patches on his body were the beginning of leprosy. He had already seen his friend Rabiul go through the terrible effects of leprosy. Hasan was scared his future would take the same course. Thankfully because of our incredible Cure One supporters, Hasan is now cured of leprosy. And because of early detection, he did not develop any form of disabilities.

Wednesday 11 April

The community turned against Hasan and his family when they found out Hasan had leprosy. They believed leprosy was a curse from God. Praise God for village health workers. They visited Hasan's village and brought the entire community together to learn about the causes and consequences of leprosy. Now people affected by leprosy, like Hasan and his family, are welcomed back into the community. They encourage each other to seek diagnosis and take the cure.

Thursday 12 April

In Bangladesh, primary education is free but the dropout rate is very high. It is because parents simply cannot afford school supplies for their children. For children in leprosy-affected communities, education is the best means of improving their future prospects. Give thanks that through New Zealand supporters, in 2017 270 Back to School Kits were distributed to children in Bangladesh.

Friday 13 April

Meg de Reus is a registered nurse. She is also one of our wonderful Youth Advocates who visited Nepal in 2016. Last year, Meg decided to return to Nepal and give back as a volunteer at Anandaban Hospital for three months. It was a remarkable adventure and she shares her experience in Autumn *inTouch*. Praise God

for her heart in serving people affected by leprosy. Pray that her testimony can inspire more people to support leprosy-affected people.

Saturday 14 April / Sunday 15 April

Beverley Cross joined our Supporter Tour to India in 2016. She brought William the teddy Bear along. Last year, Beverley penned her first children's book about the adventures of William in India, to help raise funds and awareness for the Leprosy Mission. Pray that through William's story, more children will be educated about leprosy and its consequences.

New Zealanders Overseas

Monday 16 April

A huge challenge is facing Dr. Mark and Faye Griffiths in Niger. The current director of Danja hospital and his wife are in desperate need of a furlough. They had stepped in temporarily to fill a need but a permanent director for Danja hospital and Fistula hospital has yet to be found. Pray for God's peace with Mark and Faye in this challenging time. Pray also for God's guidance and provision in bringing the right person to accept the role.

Tuesday 17 April

Dr Aw from Danja hospital has been accepted for a 6 year specialised surgical training course in Senegal. We give thanks for this amazing opportunity as Dr Aw is a very talented doctor. However, it does mean only Dr. Mark remains working in Danja hospital, meaning long hours for Dr. Mark and no one to replace him when he goes on home assignment. Pray that a doctor with a heart for mission will be stirred and willing to step out in faith in serving people in Niger.

Wednesday 18 April

Fistula hospital is another hospital that Dr. Mark and Faye associate with. Fistula hospital is needing a director as well as a long-term surgeon. At the moment, surgeries are being covered by short-term doctors but this is complicated and it means a lot more work for other medical staff who have to show them the ropes each time. Pray for God's provision in meeting their needs. Pray also for patience for Dr. Mark and Faye and the team at the hospital.

Thursday 19 April

Niger is among the poorest countries in the world, coming in last on the UNDP list, year by year. It is also a country in which it is illegal to share the gospel. Danja hospital offers God's presence among the poor in a very tangible way by sharing the gospel with patients. Pray that through Dr. Mark and Faye's service and ministry, people in Niger will be touched by the love of God.

Friday 20 April

During Christmas last year, the church that Dr. Mark and Faye are involved in, had the opportunity to go into the local prison and cook up a big meal for the prisoners. Praise God for this incredible opportunity. They are looking at having more regular literacy classes for the prisoners. This is especially important for the new believers who want to read the bible. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance for the prisoners.

Saturday 21 April / Sunday 22 April

Remember Dr. Mark and Faye's son, Joshua and daughter, Amy today. Joshua is starting a university course in Social Work, Amy has finished her training in Occupational Therapy and started a new job. Pray for good health and strength for Dr. Mark and Faye as they work long hours at the hospital. Pray also for wisdom for Dr. Mark in regulating his hours. Pray that they can all find peace and rest in God.

India

Monday 23 April

The Leprosy Mission Trust India's three-year Country Strategy (2016-2018) is in the final year of its implementation. Praise God for guiding TLM India in successfully working as per their strategy during the last two years. Pray for God's guidance and wisdom in implementing the strategy in this final year, and in developing the next country strategy.

Tuesday 24 April

TLM India conducts its programmes in collaboration with people affected by leprosy and their communities, central and state governments, the World Health Organisation, the International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Association (ILEP) and many other civil organisations. Praise God for the partners who work with Leprosy Mission in eradicating the causes and

consequences of leprosy in India. Pray for the strengthening of all collaborations and partnerships.

Wednesday 25 April

Muzaffarpur Hospital is one of the hospitals that LMNZ supports. The hospital has been serving people in Bihar for more than 100 years, providing them with treatment for leprosy as well as general health problems. Praise for God's provision and guidance. Pray Muzaffarpur can continue to bring lasting impact to the lives of people affected by leprosy in India.

Thursday 26 April

One of TLM India's priorities is early detection of leprosy and providing correct treatment in time so that the patients do not suffer disability, and those who have disabilities are rehabilitated. To achieve this, Muzaffarpur Hospital advocates and supports the government in active case detection and building its expertise in early detection of leprosy and disability management. Praise God for the commitment and expertise of the Leprosy Mission team and medical professionals in India.

Friday 27 April

Pray today for leprosy-affected people who are staying in Muzaffarpur Hospital. Pray for God's comfort and peace upon them as they are away from their families, homes and livelihoods. Pray they can receive all the care and medication they need to be physically and emotionally healed, that they will return to their lives refreshed and with a hopeful future. Pray also through the Mission work, they will realise God's love and care.

Saturday 28 April / Sunday 29 April

The stigma associated with leprosy often leads to social exclusion of people affected by the disease. They are excluded from community gatherings and prevented from accessing community resources. The Leprosy Mission works to restore people affected by leprosy and other marginalised people to full participation in society. Pray for success to date in reducing leprosy-related social stigma and discrimination, and the work to promote the social inclusion of people affected by leprosy.