

'You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.'

Psalm 77v14

New Zealand

Thursday 1 June

Praise the Lord! Jasleen Kler, LMNZ Programme Manager, is pregnant and her baby boy is due in August. May God's love and blessings shower upon her family. Jasleen will be taking parental leave to look after her newborn baby. With God's provision, pray that LMNZ can find a suitable person who has a heart for serving people affected by leprosy to cover this period of time.

Friday 2 June

Geoff and Karen Warne have moved back to NZ from the UK where Geoff served as the Leprosy Mission International Director for 10 years. We are grateful and humbled by their service and contribution to the Leprosy Mission internationally and here in NZ. In recognition of their service, Geoff and Karen became Life Members of LMNZ at the May AGM. Pray for God's blessing over them both.

Saturday 3 June / Sunday 4 June

Next month Coast FM Radio will be hosting the Leprosy Mission Really Good Gifts Day. Praise for this wonderful partnership and opportunity to raise awareness of our vital work with a new audience of supporters. Pray that listeners will open their hearts to the difficulty that people living with leprosy experience daily.

Bangladesh

Monday 5 June

Leprosy is still a major health problem in Bangladesh. Many leprosy-affected people live in extreme poverty and face discrimination in their daily lives. Pray leprosy-affected people in Bangladesh can receive all that they need to be cured, cared for and restored from leprosy.

Tuesday 6 June

The Leprosy Mission has 22 projects across Bangladesh which involves almost 600 staff. Praise God for the expertise and devotion of staff members and their heart in serving people affected by leprosy. Remember today Country Leader Salomon Sumon Halder. Pray for God-given wisdom and strong leadership as he leads all the programmes and project activities.

Wednesday 7 June

Many of those cured of leprosy still face great physical and psychological challenges due to disability and the stigma associated with the disease. Pray today for more inclusion of leprosy and disability affected people in targeted communities in Bangladesh.

Thursday 8 June

LMNZ supports leprosy-affected people in Bangladesh through the Chittagong People-led Development Project (CPDP). This project aims to improve the quality of the life of people affected by leprosy through social and economic development. Praise God the project is progressing effectively and is moving toward sustainability. Self-help groups have been the key to the project's success, providing support and skills training to more than 2,800 people living with leprosy and disability.

Friday 9 June

CPDP provides leprosy-affected individuals and their families with income-generating activities, such as sewing, animal rearing and business development. The project also provides loans and imparts knowledge of savings management. Pray that leprosy-affected people can utilise their newfound skills in setting up their own small business and go on to live a self-sustainable life.

Saturday 10 June / Sunday 11 June

TLM Bangladesh undertakes projects that include leprosy control and research. Praise God for the expertise and devotion of researchers and staff members. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance in all that they do, that they can find new solutions to bring an end to leprosy.

Community-Based Rehabilitation

Monday 12 June

Leprosy is a disease with complex physical, psychological and societal effects on the individual. Community-based rehabilitation is a powerful and multi-faceted approach that equips people affected by leprosy and disability to establish sustainable livelihoods, and to live confidently in their communities. Pray for God's abundant blessing so that leprosy-affected people can experience real transformation in their quality of life.

Tuesday 13 June

The deep-rooted stigma attached to leprosy often leads to people being barred from community gatherings and prevented from accessing community resources. Pray for an end to social stigma and discrimination towards leprosy-affected people in communities where the Leprosy Mission is implementing its community-based rehabilitation programmes.

Wednesday 14 June

Community-based rehabilitation schemes restore people affected by leprosy to full participation in society. They are encouraged to meet together on a regular basis, discuss their issues and support each other. Praise God there is a deep sense of confidence and a growing sense of dignity and self-worth amongst leprosy-affected people as they receive wider acceptance in the community.

Thursday 15 June

People affected by leprosy can receive a small loan through the micro-credit scheme. Praise God there has been an increase in the saving levels of individual members. Pray that this can make a lasting impact on lives of people affected by leprosy, so they can set up their own business and support their family.

Friday 16 June

Countries like Bangladesh, India and Nepal have experienced increased insecurity and political turmoil lately, with Christian organisations particularly under threat. Please pray for a stable working environment with peace and safety for TLM staff around the world. Pray also for good relationships between TLMI and the governments of its support countries, so that TLMI can continue its work in transforming lives.

Saturday 17 June / Sunday 18 June

Jahangir Alam joined a self-help group in his community and his life has been transformed since then. He is now a self-help group leader with 15 members. Jahangir also used his loan to set up a small business selling betel, ginger and potatoes. Praise God for Jahangir's transformation and success. Pray that his business will do well and that he will be able to build a new house for his family.

National Volunteer Week

Monday 19 June

National Volunteer Week runs from 18th to 24th June. LMNZ is very thankful for all our valuable volunteers who have a heart for the Mission. Today LMNZ is providing a mid-winter thank you lunch for all Auckland based volunteers. Praise God for their time and devotion.

Tuesday 20 June

Today we especially thank Betti Reddell, our administration and stamp coordinator, who has been volunteering in our Auckland Office once a week since January 2011. Pray for God's blessings as she tirelessly devotes her time to serve people affected by leprosy.

Wednesday 21 June

Give thanks for Ellen Butland – as for many years she has been selling items at craft stalls and donates profits to the Leprosy Mission; also for

Janelle Ingham, Leaidy Gelvea and Miriam Roy – as they volunteer many hours a week to assist with office administration tasks. They play a vital role in the Leprosy Mission's work by allowing our office to run a little more smoothly.

Thursday 22 June

TLM could not achieve its goals without the expertise volunteered by its Board members. Praise God for the contribution each of them makes to the life of the Leprosy Mission. Pray for oneness in hearts and minds as they work together with the rest of the team in supporting leprosy-affected people. Pray for productive meetings, wise decision making and the Lord's blessing on all resolutions made.

Friday 23 June

The founder of the Leprosy Mission, Wellesley Bailey, spoke of the organisation as being 'born and cradled in prayer'. We believe this statement still holds true. Praise for the thousands of prayers that are regularly offered by New Zealanders to the Lord on behalf of leprosy-affected people.

Saturday 24 June / Sunday 25 June

Praise God for the tireless knitters throughout New Zealand who, for many years, have supplied beautifully knitted merino garments for sale through Little Angels Knitwear. Praise for Kathy Turner and Helen Newbrook who devotedly manage Little Angels Knitwear and for their love and support towards people affected by leprosy.

Faizabad Vocational Training Centre

Monday 26 June

Education is a vital way of bringing economic and social change to individuals, families and communities affected by leprosy, stigma and poverty. The Leprosy Mission's Faizabad Vocational Training Centre in India offers a range of courses including computing and sewing. It opens up possibilities and opportunities and gives back the social standing that leprosy may have stolen. Pray for more financial support, so that more young people can be accepted into the courses.

Tuesday 27 June

Girls in poverty often miss out on school. Even more so for girls affected by leprosy. Through the 'Catch Them Young' programme of Faizabad Vocational Training Centre, leprosy-affected girls can receive all that they need to go to school, including tuition fees, uniform, books and pens. Pray for ongoing success for the programme that it can reach out to more leprosy affected girls and young women, to give them assurance for the future.

Wednesday 28 June

Praise the Lord! In 2016, 103 students enrolled in Faizabad Vocational Training Centre for vocational courses including computing, electronics, mechanics and tailoring. Of those that attended courses through the project, 98.7% of students passed academic exams, 80% are now in job placements and 3% are self-employed. Pray for God's provision and guidance as students finish their studies and start a new chapter of life.

Thursday 29 June

Apart from vocational education, Faizabad also provides training in order to enrich the lives of people affected by leprosy and disability through provision of additional activities such as counselling and life-skill training. Praise for the expertise of the staff in Faizabad as they take care of young people affected by leprosy and from impoverished families.

Friday 30 June

People living in communities with poor sanitation are much more vulnerable to leprosy. Therefore, community development is one of the core areas of the work in Faizabad. A range of awareness programmes on leprosy, gender, neglected tropical diseases (NTD), water, sanitation and hygiene and Human Rights, were successfully conducted. Pray that more communities will benefit from these programmes and the quality of life of leprosy-affected people will improve.