



**June 2019**

***'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.'***

***Lamentations 3:22-23***

**Indonesia**

**Saturday 1 June / Sunday 2 June**

Indonesia sees the third highest number of new leprosy cases each year. We felt God's calling to reach out to Indonesia and have partnered with Netherlands Leprosy Relief who are already on the ground. Pray that the partnership will go from strength to strength as we come together and work towards the common goal of eliminating leprosy transmission in Indonesia.

**Monday 3 June**

We are reaching out in faith for the funds for the Indonesia project solely from our supporters. Pray that hearts and minds will be opened to the need in Indonesia. Pray that supporters will come forward to help meet our target of \$100,000 for the Indonesia appeal.

**Tuesday 4 June**

*"For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11* Pray for the families who bring their children to health centres for leprosy diagnosis. They often arrive with multiple medical issues stemming from malnutrition and poor sanitation. Pray for the families that God's plan for their lives will be fulfilled.

**Wednesday 5 June**

The Indonesian public's knowledge and understanding of leprosy is still low and medical professionals sometimes don't recognise leprosy cases. Dr. Udeng is one of the technical advisors in the Indonesia project. He travels daily across West Java to educate health centres on leprosy diagnosis and active case finding. Pray for God's provision and guidance over Dr. Udeng and the team so we can reach out to those most in need.

**Thursday 6 June**

The new Indonesia project has an emphasis on finding, curing and reducing the transmission of leprosy. This is done through implementing the approach of "contact tracing" of leprosy patients, and providing one dose of Rifampicin to those who have close contact with leprosy patients. Pray that this brings a breakthrough in reducing the risk of leprosy transmission. Pray also for opportunities to replicate this new initiative in other leprosy-affected countries.

**Friday 7 June**

In 2018, LMNZ Executive Director Gillian Whitley and Programmes Manager Jasper Oei met with NLR Country Director Monique and Project Manager Astri in Indonesia. Seeing their technical expertise encouraged LMNZ in our shared dedication in defeating leprosy in Indonesia. Pray for the two teams coming together in this partnership and that the collaboration is a success.

**Saturday 8 June / Sunday 9 June**

LMNZ had its Annual General Meeting on 25th May. We praise God for a well-attended and engaged meeting. We give thanks to members who took time to attend and together we celebrated the successes in 2018.

**Successes in 2018**

**Monday 10 June**

**Cure;** leprosy is an infectious disease associated with poverty. It is curable. In 2018, 1,125 new leprosy cases were diagnosed in New Zealand supported projects, and 1,730 leprosy cases were put on multi-drug therapy treatment to cure leprosy. Last year, Oswald a 5 year old boy living in Bougainville was diagnosed and provided the cure for leprosy by our project in Bougainville. Praise God for the lives that have been cured and healed.

**Tuesday 11 June**

**Care;** Disability is not an inevitable consequence of leprosy but people continue to be affected by disability if not treated early. In 2018, 6,005 people were taught self-care for ulcers in projects New Zealanders support; 445 people received reconstructive surgery and ulcer treatment, and 2,505 pairs of protective sandals were distributed. Pray to God that hospitals and projects will continue to provide free comprehensive quality care for leprosy affected patients.

**Wednesday 12 June**

**Restore;** In the projects you support, people affected by leprosy are restored back to their communities. Livelihoods training and opportunities through self-help groups are used to empower leprosy-affected people. In 2018, the numbers of people affected by leprosy and disability joining self-help groups increased to 3,475 people. Pray even more people will join in 2019.

**Thursday 13 June**

Hasan is a 9 year old boy in Bangladesh. When he was diagnosed with leprosy, the community turned against his family because they believed leprosy was a curse from God. Through self-help groups, the community was educated about leprosy and there is no longer any stigma. Pray for God's hand of blessing and protection on health workers who educate communities on leprosy and reduce discrimination.

**Friday 14 June**

2018 was the second year of LMNZ's The Sustainable Livelihoods Development project in PNG. In 2018, 78 Community Facilitators and 40 Community Leaders

were selected and received training on basic health, hygiene, leprosy, livelihoods development, community governance and leadership. Praise God for the successes to date. The project now covers 50 communities in PNG. Pray for God's wisdom and fortitude of spirit for these leaders as they serve people affected by leprosy.

### **Saturday 15 June / Sunday 16 June**

The Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme has been supported by New Zealanders for many years. In 2018, the New Zealand government committed to a bilateral funding agreement with the programme in recognition of the vital role it has played in the health, governance and its social impact in communities. It currently reaches 95% of the population. Praise God for the significant progress that has been made and the funding that will see its continued sustainability.

### **National Volunteer Week**

#### **Monday 17 June**

It is National Volunteer Week (16th to 22nd June). This year's theme is "*Whiria te tangata – weaving the people together*" Volunteering brings people and communities together. LMNZ is very thankful for all our valuable volunteers from all walks of life who volunteer their time and energy to the mission. We praise God for their time, devotion and compassion.

#### **Tuesday 18 June**

*"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you"* Philippians 1:3 We give thanks to Rowan Spackman, Ron and Cynthia Butler, Carole Warnock, Lynn Gautier and Ellen Butland. They are a committed group of volunteers who help to ensure our Prayer and Praise gets to our prayer partners in time. Give thanks to God for them and may God bless them in all that they do.

#### **Wednesday 19 June**

Janelle approached us three years ago with the offer of volunteering work. Since then she has been a wonderful addition to our office with her studious manner and cheerful personality. Janelle comes in regularly to complete office tasks that ensure smooth administration of our work. Praise God for

Janelle's service and commitment. Pray for God's abundant blessings upon her as she gives her time to serve people affected by leprosy.

#### **Thursday 20 June**

Leprosy Mission New Zealand 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 productive meetings, wise decision making and the Lord's blessing on all resolutions made.

#### **Friday 21 June**

Praise God the new strategic plan for 2019- 2023 has been finalised. It was only possible through the many hours of volunteer service by the strategic plan working group made up of members Phil Johnstone, Andrew Stott, Anne Ratliff, Odele Habets and Andre Stuart. Give thanks to the Lord for His provision and guidance for them over this time. Thank God for taking each of their talents and expertise and guiding them as they created the plan for our next five years.

#### **Saturday 22/ Sunday 23 June**

Pray and praise for Anne Ratliff, Board Chair of LMNZ and Vice-Chair of the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship Board. Anne has accepted these leadership roles that require substantial sacrifices in her time and energy. Pray that God refreshes her mind and spirit as she completes the tasks required in these roles. Pray for her family as they support her in her volunteering.

### **Global Fellowship**

#### **Monday 24 June**

The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship came into being in 2011 through the signing of the Leprosy Mission Charter. The charter is a set of mutual commitments made by all Member Countries. We currently have 29 countries in the Global Fellowship. Pray for strong connections in the fellowship and good relationships and collaborations with other leprosy and disability organisations.

#### **Tuesday 25 June**

As part of signing this charter each fellowship member agrees to; working together in mutual reliance and agreed accountability structures; and observing

financial stewardship principles. Every year Fellowship members come together to implement this shared accountability and mutual reliance. This week Martin Malkaney, LMNZ Finance Manager, and Jasleen Kler, and Jasper Oei LMNZ Programme Managers will be attending the Global Fellowship Finance and Programmes Workshops in the UK. Pray for safety and good health for them in the long travel they will undertake.

#### **Wednesday 26 June**

We give thanks for the opportunity to collaborate and learn from each other. Pray for the finance, Human Resources and Programmes workshops taking place this week to run smoothly and be beneficial for all participants. Pray for a spirit of trust and unity in being together as a global family. Pray also for positive ongoing results from these workshops.

#### **Thursday 27 June**

Together in a Global fellowship we can do so much more. In 2018, 609,406,817 people were reached through our work; 12,549 new leprosy cases were detected and 17,611 protective sandals were distributed to care for leprosy affected feet. Praise the Lord for these successes as we are the hands and feet of His work. Pray for all those that have been cured, cared for and restored through the work of the Global Fellowship.

#### **Friday 28 June**

In 2018, 108,820 people came together to pray for leprosy-affected people in our 200 projects across the world. Praise God for our prayer partners who uphold the work. In our projects leprosy-affected people feel heartened to know that people love and care for them and are praying for them.

#### **Saturday 29 June/ Sunday 30 June**

The Global fellowship work relies on its supporters who give faithfully and sacrificially as well as its diligent staff members from all countries. Praise God for the contribution each and every single one of them makes to the life of TLM. Pray the Spirit of God will breathe through the entire Mission as we work together to end leprosy.