

October 2018

‘Even strong lions sometimes go hungry, but those who trust in the Lord will lack no good thing.’ Psalm 34v10

New Zealand

Monday 1 October

The applications for 2018 Youth Advocate Scholarships are closing this Friday 5th October. Pray that tertiary students who have a heart for mission and people affected by leprosy will have courage and take a leap of faith in applying to become Youth Advocates in 2019 to help raise awareness and funding for the Mission’s work.

Tuesday 2 October

We want to say a heartfelt welcome to Katy Edwards, who recently joined the Leprosy Mission NZ family. Katy was one of our incredible Youth Advocates in 2016. She has a heart for the Mission’s work and is passionate about social justice. Pray for God’s wisdom and guidance in all that she does.

Wednesday 3 October

Gathering New Zealander’s support for Leprosy Mission’s work is fundamental to achieving the vision to bring an end to the transmission of leprosy by 2035. Please commit LMNZ’s strategic fundraising plan for 2019 to God. Pray for God’s guidance to harness available opportunities; and equip the team with innovative ideas for the

development of new channels of income and partnership.

Thursday 4 October

There are the final weeks of training for staff, Board members, volunteers, supporters and Youth Advocates who are participating in the Auckland Marathon on 28th October. Pray for wellness and persistence as participants build their fitness and endurance towards their goal. Pray for encouragement in their fundraising efforts as they seek to help cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy.

Friday 5 October

Today is the last day that young people can apply for the 2019 Youth Advocate Scholarships. Pray for wisdom as final interviews and decisions need to be made for applicants from throughout New Zealand. The selected applicants will commit to raising funds, and campaigning on issues affecting people living with leprosy. Pray that the right decisions will be made regarding these scholarships.

Saturday 6 October / Sunday 7 October

Praise for the fundraising efforts of this year’s Youth Advocates; Andre Donald, Charlotte Greig, Emma Lee, Jack Jonathan Maran, Justine Milina, Juvelyn Raynel, Luke Barker, Narelle Stewart and Rebecca Wilson who are raising funds to help upgrade the prosthesis and orthoses equipment at Anandaban Hospital, Nepal. Pray for successful fundraising outcomes and that more people will learn about leprosy and its consequences.

India

Monday 8 October

World Mental Health day – A diagnosis of leprosy often has a negative impact on a person’s mental health and wellbeing. Pray for all those struggling with mental health issues as a result of leprosy. Give thanks for the counsellors and staff who help people affected by leprosy through this difficult time.

Tuesday 9 October

The Personal Laws (Amendment) – a bill that seeks to strike out leprosy as legal grounds for seeking divorce under personal laws in India – has been introduced in India’s Parliament in 2018. Praise God for the progress to date. Pray for God’s guidance for the lawmakers to

pass the bill so that leprosy is no longer legal grounds for divorce.

Wednesday 10 October

The Leprosy Mission team in India advocates for and supports the government in early detection of leprosy. Because of this, many patients receive early treatment which helps them remain free from disability. Rehabilitation is also provided for those who have disabilities. Pray for the success of this initiative and for God’s provision and guidance that Mission staff can find and provide support to those most in need.

Thursday 11 October

Last month the Supreme Court of India released a landmark judgement for inclusion and rehabilitation of people affected by leprosy. Under this judgement, the Central and state governments agreed to undertake national surveys of leprosy, organise massive leprosy awareness campaigns, and ensure that drugs for the management of leprosy and its complications are free of charge. Pray that leprosy-affected people will be empowered and the stigma around leprosy can be dispelled.

Friday 12 October

Pray today for Niran, our Cure One ambassador who has already suffered so much at such a young age because of leprosy. Leprosy attacked Niran’s young body and left him with numbness and loss of feeling in his face and hands, and a left eye that cannot fully close. Pray for God’s comfort and healing hands upon him, that Niran can be cured of leprosy forever. Pray that Niran can receive surgery for his hands and eye so he can continue his studies and flourish at school.

Saturday 13 October / Sunday 14 October

Praise God for the many Leprosy Mission staff, doctors, nurses and scientists for their expertise and commitment to ending leprosy and transforming the lives of people affected by leprosy in India. Pray for God’s wisdom and provision in all that they do, that people affected by leprosy will come to know the love of God.

Really Good Gifts (RGG)

Monday 15 October

Today our exciting Really Good Gifts catalogue will be posted to supporters. Really Good Gifts allow people

to give a gift that will make a lasting impact for people affected by leprosy. The leprosy-affected person who receives a RGG will be supported through self-help groups, training or on-going medical care. Please pray that this year's catalogue will be well received.

Tuesday 16 October

Over the next few months, the Leprosy Mission New Zealand will be blessed to have volunteers regularly coming into the office to help the Supporter Services team send out Really Good Gifts to supporters. Praise God for these volunteers who have a heart for serving people affected by leprosy and willingly give their time to support the Mission work.

Wednesday 17 October

"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1:17 Really Good Gifts make really good things happen for people whose lives have been devastated by leprosy. Pray that through these Really Good Gifts, people affected by leprosy can feel a sense of God's love this Christmas, and be hopeful for their future.

Thursday 18 October

When Maya was diagnosed with leprosy at the Leprosy Mission Anandaban Hospital a few years ago, she felt destitute, lost and burdened by what life had dealt her. Praise the Lord! Through Really Good Gifts, Maya has undergone reconstructive surgery and physiotherapy to correct her clawed hands. Maya can now perform simple everyday tasks again, like cooking, writing and taking care of her 5 year old daughter.

Friday 19 October

Sewing is a vocation that is still very important in many countries like Nepal. Maya was given a sewing machine which was adapted to her needs. For Maya, this sewing machine proved an invaluable means of learning a new trade. Pray for God's blessings upon her hands that she can make more beautiful clothes to sell so she can earn a living, and lift herself and her family out of poverty.

Saturday 20 October / Sunday 21 October

Girls living in poverty often miss out on the opportunity to go to school. Even more so for girls affected by leprosy. Thankfully, Maya's 5 year old daughter, Mamata, received an educational scholarship from the Leprosy Mission. She can learn to read, write, and will develop self-confidence. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance in Mamata's studies.

Bougainville

Monday 22 October

"He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul." Psalm 23:2-3 **Labour Day** – May you find rest and peace in Him today and the week ahead, knowing that the Lord is our provider, comforter and stronghold. We lack nothing in Him.

Tuesday 23 October

In August, Ruby Mirinka, Programme Director of the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme came to New Zealand and had a full week of meetings with LMNZ Programmes Team to design the next stage of the project. We praise God for Ruby as she has devoted her life to serve people in Bougainville. We pray for God's favour and guidance as she leads her team in making lasting impact in the lives of people affected by leprosy in Bougainville.

Wednesday 24 October

This is the final year of implementation of the five year Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme (BHCP). We praise God for the achievements to date and all the lives being transformed through the programme. Pray that BHCP will continue to flourish and faithfully serve the needs of the communities in Bougainville.

Thursday 25 October

The new five-year project proposal for our work in Bougainville is still under review by the New Zealand government for funding. Pray that it can get approved as soon as possible so that our work in Bougainville can continue. Pray also for smooth transition between projects and that like-minded people will be willing to take up new positions so that more leprosy-affected people can receive help and be cured from this dreadful disease.

Friday 26 October

Praise for the many village health volunteers in Bougainville. Volunteers receive training from the Leprosy Mission in diagnosing leprosy cases, and in helping leprosy-affected people access the cure. Pray for God's protection over them as they travel long hours to make sure no one misses out on the cure for leprosy.

Saturday 27 October / Sunday 28 October

Praise for all the Running 4 Rights team participating this weekend in the Auckland Marathon. Praise for their determination in training and their heart for leprosy-affected people. Thanks to all the supporters who have sponsored the team. Pray that this event will continue to be a successful avenue to raise awareness and funds within the New Zealand public arena.

New Zealander Overseas

Monday 29 October

Dr. David Friend and his wife Enless are based in Mukinge Hospital, Zambia. Kikonkomene is a village next to the hospital and is home to more than 20 leprosy-affected families who need on-going medical care. Praise God for Dr. David and Enless's heart for serving people affected by leprosy. Pray for God's strength and provision as they tirelessly provide for patients' physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Tuesday 30 October

Remember today Dr. David Friend and his diligent team at Mukinge Hospital. Pray for strength, joy, wisdom and skill for them. The hospital is currently building a new operating theatre block, pray for smooth logistics and resources in the process as Mukinge Hospital is struggling financially at the moment.

Wednesday 31 October

Pray for Rosemary, a leprosy-affected patient who has just returned back to her village after staying in Mukinge Hospital for a month. Because of her drop foot, she fell broke her hip. Pray for God's love and comfort upon her during the recovery period. Pray also for God's protection that Rosemary will not further injure herself.