



**The Leprosy
Mission**
New Zealand

September 2016

'He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.'

Ecclesiastes 3v11 (NIV)

India

Thursday 1 September

As a result of the massive flooding in the Tamil Nadu state last December TLM's hospital and vocational training centre at Vadathorasaur were badly affected. Pray for resources for the major repairs and maintenance that still need to be completed. Pray for Dr Chinnaraju (Hospital Superintendent) and Tinson Thomas (Vocational Training Centre Principal).

Friday 2 September

The Snehalaya (Care Home) in Almora is in urgent need of a full time medical officer to run the day to day Outpatients Department and to care for residents. Snehalayas provide residential care, medical treatment, social support and protection for elderly people adversely affected by leprosy. TLM also works to unite these elderly people with their families.

Saturday 3 / Sunday 4 September

Pray the Vocational Training Centre Bankura is able to develop good relationships with churches and schools to allow successful local fundraising. Pray the trainees undergoing vocational education will gain confidence and self-esteem through the counselling, self-care and life coping skills initiatives that are all part of the programme.

Education and Advocacy

Monday 5 September

TLM India's 'Catch Them Young' programme gives children from leprosy-affected families the opportunity to receive an education by paying all expenses related to their learning. Pray for God's blessings on these children that they will be diligent in their studies and be able to access better quality education, especially higher education.

Tuesday 6 September

TLM projects focus on ensuring girls have equal opportunities as boys to education. Pray that girls and disabled graduates are successful in their education and can overcome difficulties and retain jobs within safe working environments.

Wednesday 7 September

Praise God for the 1,400 young people affected by leprosy supported through Vocational Training Centres in India. Pray for their good health. Pray their spiritual needs are met and that they experience the peace of God; that He will guard their hearts and minds.

Thursday 8 September

International Literacy Day – Today one in five adults are illiterate and of these two thirds are women. Pray that TLM Adult Literacy Centres and Literacy classes for Self Help members will enable people with leprosy to manage their own small businesses and set up banking. Literacy skills are a key driver for sustainable development.

Friday 9 September

Advocacy involves a co-ordinated effort to change attitudes, practices, ideas, policies, and power and resource distribution that exclude disadvantaged groups. The Leprosy Mission undertakes advocacy to ensure access to basic human rights, including an

education, are available to all people regardless of gender. In some countries, the Mission is forbidden to conduct open advocacy. For these countries pray the way the Mission works and the commitment shown to people affected by leprosy will demonstrate what the Mission is not allowed to say.

Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 September

Community Based Vocational Training (CBVT) enables The Leprosy Mission to reach out to hundreds living in vulnerable communities. CBVT provides for youths and married women training and employment support in mushroom cultivation, silk thread weaving, computers, mobile repairing and tailoring. Pray for wisdom in the selection process; that staff will reach those most in need and that the skills training will lead to sustainable livelihoods.

Leprosy Mission NZ's inTouch Magazine

Monday 12 September

Pray for a positive response to the *Spring inTouch* Magazine which is currently being posted to supporters. Pray Gillian Whitley's first magazine as the newly appointed Leprosy Mission NZ's Executive Director will be well received and Gillian will be taken into the hearts of our supporters.

Tuesday 13 September

Anjali is 15 and lives in Bihar, India. In 2014 she began having symptoms of leprosy. After her leprosy was diagnosed she was sent to Muzaffarpur Hospital for treatment and physiotherapy. Because of our *Cure One* supporters Anjali and many like her are able to have their lives completely transformed. Pray supporters reading about our *Cure One* programme in *inTouch* will respond positively.

Wednesday 14 September

Pray today for Sanku and his wife Apurna and many other families like them who have this year discovered they have leprosy. Sanku, was a carpenter whose income drastically declined once it was found he had leprosy. Through a Self Help Group in Chittagong, Bangladesh, Apurna was able to learn tailoring and to set up her own small business. Praise for success of Self Help groups which are able to change lives.

Thursday 15 September

Finding leprosy in someone as young as nine is very sad. Sume, who lives in Bangladesh, was nine when this happened to her and through the generous support of New Zealanders she has had hand surgery to correct her clawed hand. Pray that Sume will continue to diligently carry out her physiotherapy exercises every day once she returns to her home. Pray that more health providers will recognise the early signs of leprosy and people will receive treatment before disabilities are irreversible.

Friday 16 September

Praise for village health volunteers who give their time to change lives in their communities in PNG and Bougainville. Chief John Kuvatonim, of Parami Village (Bougainville) undertook a two week health care training course with Leprosy Mission staff and now does an incredible work identifying people with leprosy and TB and making sure they receive the full course of multi-drug therapy, the cure for leprosy. Pray that all health village volunteers will actively use their new found knowledge to transform health in their respective communities.

Saturday 17 / Sunday 18 September

Thanks and praise for those supporters who leave a lasting gift in their Will for the work of the Leprosy Mission enabling their commitment to continue changing the future for people affected by leprosy. Bequests are a significant proportion of the funds we receive each year.

Global Fellowship

Monday 19 September

The 19th International Leprosy Congress is being held from today until 21st September in Beijing, China. This is a chance for scientists, researchers, health personnel, organisations and individuals affected by leprosy to join together and discuss the goal of a world free from leprosy. The theme this year is 'Unfinished Business': stopping transmission, preventing disability and promoting inclusion. Pray, through presentations being made by TLM's young scientists and others, interest in leprosy research will be galvanised.

Tuesday 20 September

Many people with leprosy are diagnosed too late to prevent nerve damage. An international team has been working on a new community-based and church-based concept for leprosy case-finding. Pray for clear thinking for Pete Garratt (TLM International Office) and the team as they work through this procedure and that ultimately it can be used in a number of countries in the hope that leprosy can be identified earlier.

Wednesday 21 September

Pray for all TLM Country Leaders as they deal with the unique situations they each face in the countries where they serve. Pray for wisdom and understanding. Remember especially new country leaders; Moses Onoh in Nigeria and our Gillian Whitley here in New Zealand. Pray that all leaders from all countries will grow in their leadership experience and look to Jesus Christ, the servant leader, as model and inspiration.

Thursday 22 September

Pray for a passion in every TLM Country for building deeper relationships with Leprosy Mission teams in other countries. *'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.'*
1 Corinthians 12v12

Friday 23 September

Pray for the country leaders and chairpersons of TLM countries, and the leadership team and Board of TLM International, who are gathering near London for a series of meetings starting today. Around 65 people will be attending. This is the one time each year when all member countries and TLM International meet to hear one another, for group decision making, relationship building and mutual understanding. Pray for a spirit of mutual trust and unity and real joy in being together as a global family.

Saturday 24 / Sunday 25 September

This weekend Geoff and Karen Warne will be farewelled after Geoff's ten years as General Director of TLM International and Brent Morgan, and his wife Tracy will be formally introduced to the TLM worldwide family. Pray for blessings on both couples. Pray for Brent as he takes over the responsibilities of leadership in this wonderful global mission.

Nepal

Monday 26 September

The earthquakes in Nepal weakened the land and the infrastructure especially in the Central Development Region, resulting in dangerous terrains at higher risk of landslides. TLM Nepal have to travel to risky areas and remote locations in these terrains so please pray for their safety and wellbeing.

Tuesday 27 September

TLM Nepal has been providing support amongst earthquake affected individuals, but financial resources are limited and they cannot support everyone in need. Pray for success as they advocate on behalf of people affected by leprosy and disabilities from other institutions that are helping people affected by the earthquake.

Wednesday 28 September

Give thanks for researchers at the Anandaban Mycobacterial Research Laboratory in Nepal. Pray that their work will develop new tools to diagnose and treat leprosy on the field. Remember also Dr Indra Napit Medical Director at Anandaban Hospital.

Thursday 29 September

Due to Dr Julie Lincoln's Nepal visa having expired she is now working from Thailand. Julie requests prayer that she is able to work effectively with Nepali colleagues from a distance and for good preparation of health and spiritual workshop resources that she will be able to use once she returns to Nepal.

Friday 30 September

Remember TLM Nepal Country Leader Mr Shovakhar Kandel, based in Kathmandu, as he coordinates work with various government agencies, strategic partners spread across Nepal and projects run by TLM Nepal. Give thanks for the good working relationship between TLM and other organisations in Nepal. Pray he will provide strong leadership in all he does.