

### **Tuesday 2 May**

Give thanks for the satellite clinics of Anandaban Hospital, which are in Butwal, Biratnagar and Chitwal. People affected by leprosy can be diagnosed and receive treatment for the condition at the clinics. Pray for the staff who run these clinics and give thanks for the care and skill they provide to the most vulnerable.

### **Wednesday 3 May**

In Nepal leprosy is often seen as a punishment for past deeds. People often hide the early signs of leprosy, making them vulnerable to disability. Diagnosis is often followed by depression and a sense of hopelessness for the patient and their family. Please pray that training programmes can break down the misunderstanding that has led to stigma for those affected by leprosy.

### **Thursday 4 May**

Pray that those who have been cured of leprosy and are overcoming disability will have the courage to speak to others who have symptoms of leprosy but are hesitant to come for diagnosis. Also pray that other people in communities will learn that leprosy is curable and not to be feared.

### **Friday 5 May**

Pray that those who have disability because of leprosy will find support from self-help groups. Also pray that they can use loans to start a business which will improve their income and give them status within their families and communities. Give thanks that the lives of many people are changing through the training and support provided through self-help groups.

### **Saturday 6 May/Sunday 7 May**

Give thanks that resources have been available for TLM Nepal to run Skin Camps and pray that funds will continue to be available. People affected by leprosy are often diagnosed through the Skin Camps so please pray that hidden cases can be found and treated early to prevent disability.

## **Global Day of Prayer**

### **Monday 8 May**

The Leprosy Mission Global Day of Prayer reaffirms our identity as a Christian mission with Christ at the centre. Please pray that TLM will be not only

influenced by faith but Christ-centred in everything we do.

### **Tuesday 9 May**

It is time to prepare a new Global Strategy for The Leprosy Mission. Please join us in prayer to follow the leadership of Christ and to acknowledge that we need His wisdom to see leprosy eliminated in our lifetime.

### **Wednesday 10 May**

Please pray that staff, supporters, volunteers and Board Members will be able to put their regular work to the side and seek God in prayer today. Pray that God will speak to us in His mighty wisdom and that we will recognise His leading for the future.

## **Timor Leste**

### **Thursday 11 May**

A community-based rehabilitation project aims to integrate people affected by leprosy back into the community, particularly through the formation of self-help groups. Give thanks that people affected by leprosy and disability are gaining hope for the future. Please pray that income-generating activities will be successful so that people's lives can improve with their standard of living.

### **Friday 12 May**

Timor Leste has an independent, national organisation of persons with disabilities, and the Association of Disability. TLM TL works closely with these organisations to promote quality of life and full participation in society. Please pray that people affected by leprosy and disability will find motivation and activities in which their contribution is valued.

### **Saturday 13 May/Sunday 14 May**

In Timor Leste people affected by leprosy face a lot of stigma. This leads to isolation, so people don't want it known that they suffer from leprosy. Please pray that the efforts of the team in the PHACE programme will mean that people learn that leprosy is curable, so the stigma is broken.

## **Bangladesh**

### **Monday 15 May**

During Covid when patients with leprosy complications couldn't get to health centres, medical personnel of

TLM Bangladesh trialled remote consultations via video calls. Give thanks that the team were awarded the American Leprosy Mission's Neglected Tropical Disease Innovation Prize, so in 2023 they can scale up their digital health project using the \$US40 000 prize money.

### **Tuesday 16 May**

This project would not work without ALO, the national organisation of people affected by leprosy in Bangladesh. ALO is the umbrella body for the 100 federations of 1500 self-help groups in Bangladesh. ALO was perfectly placed to help during the pandemic and are going to be the main implementing partner of the pilot project. Give thanks that the project will be able to expand from five districts to twenty districts across Bangladesh.

### **Wednesday 17 May**

Give thanks for ALO members' Community Resource People, who visit people affected by leprosy in their homes to check for leprosy complications. When they find complications, they arrange a video call with one of TLM's doctors, who can examine the complication and make suggestions for self-care and recovery. The ALO team will sit with the patient during the consultation and will encourage other members of the household to join the call and listen to the doctors.

### **Thursday 18 May**

Give thanks for the effectiveness of this programme. It is easier than travelling to a health centre and the video calls make the patients feel heard by the doctors and the ALO team. This motivates them with their self-care. Including other household members is also important because the patient is much more likely to keep up their self-care practices if they feel supported and encouraged by their family.

### **Friday 19 May**

ALO teams will continue to visit patients and will set up further consultations with TLM doctors or arrange access to a medical centre if needed. They will also talk to patients about the benefits of self-help groups and will teach people the basics of contact tracing and how to monitor their household members for early signs of leprosy. Thank the Lord for this extensive service for people affected by leprosy.

### **Saturday 20 May/Sunday 21 May**

TLM Bangladesh will track how many patients benefit from digital healthcare and how many are released from care through the project. They will also track how many still need to attend a medical centre to resolve their complication. Researchers will consider how many patients' families take part in self-care and treatment. Give thanks for the innovation and skill of those involved in this trial project and pray for its success.

### **Papua New Guinea**

#### **Monday 22 May**

Give thanks for the recently appointed MERL Co-ordinator (Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning), who joined the team last month. Please pray that God will help him to determine the best ways to collect and report data around periodic community support visits, training numbers and leprosy case detection and treatment.

#### **Tuesday 23 May**

The Community Development Co-ordinators are rolling out the first round of training for the Preventative Health and Community Empowerment programme. Please pray for the facilitators to cover everything they need to and to be encouraged in their work. Pray that the training will be well-received by the communities and that they will benefit from it.

#### **Wednesday 24 May**

As part of the PHACE Project Community Development Facilitators and Village Health Volunteers visit communities. They follow up on those affected by leprosy to encourage them to take their medication and they aim to improve case detection among the communities. Please pray that this work will bear fruit and that referrals to the health facilities will be made regularly.

#### **Thursday 25 May**

Please pray for continuous collaboration between TLM PNG, community leaders and staff of the local Department of Health. Pray that trust will develop so that the project can progress with good will and that people affected by leprosy and disability can receive the cure, care and restoration they need.

### **Friday 26 May**

Please pray for safety and God's protection for the staff and volunteers of TLM PNG as they reach out to people affected by leprosy and disability. Pray for God's wisdom and intervention as they lead their communities in health, governance, and livelihoods support.

### **Saturday 27 May/Sunday 28 May**

Give thanks to God for the communities involved in the PHACE Project. Thank Him for the life of every person and pray that their lives will improve as they learn how to manage their health within their own communities. Pray that those affected by leprosy will learn self-care for any wounds and that disability can be avoided.

### **Worldwide**

#### **Monday 29 May**

Give thanks that The Leprosy Mission Mozambique works with the Ministry of Health and local organisations to improve healthcare. Staff are trained about leprosy, disease control and disability prevention. The projects also train people in communities affected by leprosy to recognise the signs of leprosy, complete their treatment plans, look after their wounds, and support each other in their journey to healing.

#### **Tuesday 30 May**

Sri Lanka was the first country in South Asia to provide Multi-Drug Therapy to all registered leprosy patients, but the disease is still prevalent because people affected by leprosy are ostracized by society. Give thanks for the local partners of The Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka. Also give thanks that TLM International have a strong working relationship with Government institutions. TLM are supporting them in new case detection, through leprosy training, in complication management and to end legislation that discriminates against people affected by the disease.

#### **Wednesday 31 May**

The rate of leprosy in Kiribati is very high per head of population, but the prevalence of leprosy on remote islands is not known. Please pray that programmes can be developed to reach remote communities and find undiagnosed cases so people can receive the cure and care they need.



## ***Prayer & Praise***

***Strengthening the Leprosy Mission  
Family through Prayer***

**May 2023**

***'The Lord lift up His  
countenance upon you and give  
you peace.'***

***Numbers 6: 26***

### **Nepal**

#### **Monday 1 May**

TLM Nepal has increased its training capacity through the years. Give thanks that training is provided at community level in injury and trauma management, disability management and peer support.