

Quarterly Prayer Guide



January, February, March 2018

Welcome

This is the Quarterly Prayer Guide for Jan-Mar 2018.

It is designed to be used as an accompaniment to the ASK 2018 Prayer Diary, providing updates and new prayer topics that have arisen since its publication.

Over the next three months please join us in prayer for The Leprosy Mission and partners in India, DR Congo, Switzerland, Nepal, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Sudan, South Sudan, England and Wales, Nigeria, Spain and Singapore, as well as for World Leprosy Day.

Thank you for supporting the work of The Leprosy Mission in prayer.

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Cover photo: Renagi's daughter Vele with her multi-drug therapy pack.

Right: Renagi's family.

A Happy Family



Renagi (second from left) first noticed something was wrong when she was 11 years old. Two of her fingers were swollen and painful. After doing nothing about it for around a year, her family took her to Port Moresby General Hospital to have it looked at. There she was diagnosed with leprosy and leprosy reaction because of the swelling and nodules that had appeared on her body. She started taking multi-drug therapy to cure her of leprosy, along with prednisolone for the reaction. She stayed in the hospital until the reaction stabilised. Fortunately for her the leprosy went away and she didn't have any severe disabilities.

In the last year, Renagi's husband Emmanuel (far right) was re-diagnosed with leprosy (he also had it when he was young), as well as her daughter Vele (far left). They discovered that Renagi had also probably not take the complete doses of medicine when she was young, and because leprosy was still active in their family, they were all started on the medicine again.

Vele was 7 when they found her patches during a community screening exercise for leprosy. Her parents had noticed the patches, but did not know they were leprosy.

They have all been taking their medicine regularly, and Vele has not developed any other complications. She is going to school in Grade 1. Leprosy has not stopped her from doing what she wants and she still plays with all the other children in the community.

Renagi only went to primary school. After she got leprosy she stopped going to school and stayed at home to help her family with their garden until she got married to Emmanuel. They had both had leprosy before, so no one was worried about them marrying each other. Now she works in her garden growing yam, tapioca and sweet potato. Because of having had leprosy, she is not as strong and not able to stay in the garden farming as long as others who haven't had leprosy. She gets tired working in the hot sun. Sometimes when she gets home she is too tired to cook, so they go and buy food from someone else who is cooking food for business.

Renagi is happy to be cured of leprosy and glad her husband and daughter also got treatment and are cured. She hopes to be a part of a new TLM Papua New Guinea project which will support Sustainable Livelihoods in the communities.

1 - 7 January

People of TLM

Happy New Year!

As many TLM staff and volunteers return to work after taking holidays over the Christmas period, pray that they will feel refreshed and motivated as they start a new year of challenges and opportunities. Pray that all and their families will have been kept safe over the break.

8-14 January

India

Annual Review

The annual review of TLM India's hospitals, projects and community empowerment projects will be conducted in February. Their Annual Leadership Consultation 2018 will also be organised in February. Pray for God's guidance in the planning and arrangements.

15-21 January

DR Congo

Staff Retreat

Pray for TLM Congo's staff retreat at the beginning of this year at Zongo Falls in Kongo Central, that it would be a refreshing and encouraging time of unity.

Visit from TLM Sweden

Pray for the visit of Leif and Jonas from TLM Sweden, that it will be beneficial to all involved, that people will listen and understand each other and relationships will be strengthened.

Church Leadership

Pray for the new leadership

at the head of the Church of Christ in Congo (ECC) and for an improved relationship and good collaboration between the NGOs associated to ECC, including TLM Congo, and the new ECC leaders.

National Leprosy Programme

Pray for the new leadership of the National Leprosy Programme with Dr Florent Ngondou and his team to be strong and wise. Pray for a lasting and beneficial partnership for people affected by leprosy. Pray too for the writing of DR Congo's National Leprosy Programme Country Strategic Plan, under the initiative of TLM Congo.

Donors

Thank the Lord for the various donors in who have allowed TLM Congo to cover the major financial gap in 2017 (TLM Belgium, TLM Switzerland, TLM France and TLM Netherlands).

Livelihood Training

Give thanks to God for the completion of a training in cutting and sewing for people affected by leprosy and other disabilities, with the support of a Swedish family. Pray that these people can find employment and be fully integrated into society.

22-28 January

World Leprosy Day

TLM England and Wales

TLM England and Wales's 2018 World Leprosy Sunday campaign is Breaking the Chains of Leprosy in Niger. Having had a mailing, please pray that churches will request a speaker to show the short film, PowerPoint and a 20 minute sermon.

Pray God will rain down His blessings through our wonderful supporters in the churches to be moved to pray and donate. Please pray the chains and consequences of leprosy will not be handed down through the generations.

Northern Ireland

TLM Northern Ireland are having a call to prayer on Wednesday 24th in the lead up to World Leprosy Day - asking churches to pray and hosting a prayer event in their office. Please pray for a good response to this opportunity to gather together in the Lord's presence and offer Him our praise and our requests.

They are also launching a Champions for Change campaign, engaging churches and individuals in the battle against stigma. Pray that people would respond positively to this campaign.

Finally, they're having a special World Leprosy Day service in Lisburn Cathedral for supporters, with Brent Morgan as guest speaker. Pray for Brent and all other participants, that God would bless the proceedings and the event would be successful.

Nigeria

Pray for the successful implementation of TLM Nigeria's 2018 World Leprosy Day celebration events, which include awareness activities, seminars, workshops, planned rallies and marathons to raise money for treatment and rehabilitation for those affected by leprosy.

DR Congo

Pray for DR Congo's World Leprosy Day activities with the local churches of Kinshasa, and that working together on these activities would strengthen their partnership.

29 January - 4 February

Switzerland

Donor Acquisition

Thank God for this new year and pray for wisdom and discernment as TLM Switzerland seek to gain younger donors.

Dan Izzett's Testimony

Thank God for the book "DEBOUT malgré tout" – the testimony of Dan Izzett, who has personal experience of leprosy and is now strongly involved in advocacy. Give thanks for the contacts TLM Switzerland has had during the time Dan and Babs Izzett were visiting in Switzerland. Pray that these people will start or continue to support people affected by leprosy.

Christian Conference

Give thanks to God for the contact the team in Switzerland had with people during the Christian Conference Explo (29 Dec - 1 Jan). Pray that young participants would like to support young students in TLM's Vocational Training Centres.

Fundraising Collaborator

Pray for a new collaborator for TLM Switzerland's fundraising with major donors and foundations and that the right person can adapt well to the job.

Trip to India

Pray for the trip to India with TLM Switzerland's ambassador Ruedi Josuran. They will visit projects such as Salur Hospital and the Vocational Training Centre in Vizianagaram. The goal is to gather material (pictures, statements, films) to use for fundraising.

5 - 11 February

Nepal

Operational Research Workshop

The Leprosy Research Initiative is conducting a workshop on operational research in Nepal on the 5th-9th of February. Please pray that TLM Nepal and partner research groups are able to understand the components and methods of writing competitive study proposals and conducting research in leprosy. May there be a number of operational research proposals and opportunities for funding.

Exchange Programme

The personnel taking part in the FK Norway exchange programme are travelling to their respective host countries on the 10th of February after attending a week long training in Bangkok. This exchange programme, financed by the Norwegian Government, has given TLM Nepal, TLM Myanmar and TLM Bangladesh the opportunity for two way mutual personnel exchange of doctors, nurses and programmes staff for mutual learning in the first year. Please pray for the smooth running of this project, the safety of all exchange personnel and fostering of a learning environment.

International Mental Health Conference

The International Mental Health Conference is taking place on the 16th and 17th of February in Nepal bringing together several partners from Nepal including the Government, multilateral and bilateral organisations, health professionals, social workers, the private sector, innovators,

academic and research institutions and civil society in the same platform. Please pray that the discourse on mental health will be of benefit to and inclusion of people affected by leprosy. Please pray that our paper and poster presentations be well received and help in culminating partnerships for increased mental health interventions.

Construction Works

Please continue to pray for the construction work at Anandaban Hospital which has been ongoing since the 2015 earthquakes. May we be able to continue to provide quality services whilst redeveloping Anandaban. Please give strength to all the construction workers, technical advisers led by Engineer Tek Sharma and Article 25 (architecture organisation). May coordination and communication be uninterrupted and efficient.

Annual Reports

Please pray that all TLM Nepal projects are able to report excellent project achievements for the annual reports. May TLM Nepal Country Office be able to support all projects in submitting the reports on time.

12 - 18 February

Bangladesh

Recruitment

The staff now needed at DBLM Hospital includes a Medical Officer, a Program Leader, a Nursing Officer, an Assistive Device Technician and a Pharmacist. Please continue to pray for the recruitment process and the new team members.

Hospital Funding

DBLM Hospital is suffering from a funding crisis. Pray

that local resources can be properly utilised to face this crisis and may Jesus bless us like he fed more than five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish at Bethsaida. The services available at DBLM Hospital are vital for people affected by leprosy in Bangladesh.

Outpatient Department

We give thanks to the Lord that though DBLM Hospital is suffering from lack of funds, more people are getting services through the new Outpatient Department and the local income of the hospital is therefore increasing as well as being able to serve more people in the community for general diseases.

Association AGM

28 sub-district associations of self-help groups with all their members will arrange Annual General Meetings in the first quarter of the year in North West Bangladesh. For associations whose committees have completed their leadership term, this will include elections for new committees. Please pray for association leaders to run their associations and self-help groups effectively.

Healing for Shohag

Please pray for Shohag Mondal, a Community Development Facilitator of Dhaka Community Based Rehabilitation Project who had a serious motorcycle accident with a bus in October and at time of writing is still in hospital. He needs God's healing hands upon him for his quick recovery and financial support for his treatment. Please also pray for his family members and his fiancée.

19 - 25 February

New Zealand

Daily Work

Pray for fresh ideas, wisdom and strength for the small team in New Zealand as they carry out their everyday work.

Board Meeting

Pray for a fruitful Board meeting of The Leprosy Mission New Zealand on 19th May. Pray for oneness in hearts and wisdom in all decision making.

Church Engagement

TLM New Zealand is endeavouring to engage with more churches and Christian organisations in New Zealand. Pray that they will be inspired, take an interest in the needs of people affected by leprosy and willing to partner with The Leprosy Mission.

Donor Acquisition

Donor acquisition is challenging and the average age of Leprosy Mission New Zealand donors is increasing. Pray for wisdom to harness available opportunities to acquire new baby-boomer donors; and for God to equip the team with innovative ideas for the development of new channels of income and partnership.

26 February - 4 March

Sudan

Registration

Pray for a smooth renewal of TLM Sudan's registration with the Government.

Technical Agreement

Pray for a breakthrough regarding the signing of a technical agreement

between TLM and the Government of Sudan.

John and Seela

Pray for TLM Sudan staff John and Seela as they cope with the pressures of work and particularly with complying with government regulations.

South Sudan

Luri Rokwe

TLM South Sudan's socio-economic development project in Luri Rokwe will be finishing later this year. Pray for a smooth close to the project; that the self-help groups involved will be able to continue their savings and small business activities, and that the parents of children enrolled in schools through the project will continue to support their enrolment.

Funding

Pray that God would provide the funding and resources to meet people's needs in South Sudan.

Advocacy

Pray that a newly formed association will be well-equipped to be the mouthpiece of people affected by leprosy in Juba.

Peace

Pray for safety and peace to return to South Sudan. Pray for Wilson and Yousif for wisdom and strength to finish the work.

5 - 11 March

England and Wales

Board and Vice Presidents

Please continue to pray for TLM England and Wales's Board of Trustees and for its Vice Presidents. Give thanks for the Trustees and Vice Presidents' commitment to the vital roles they play. Pray for

wisdom and discernment for them and particularly in any decisions they make as they continue to ensure good governance of the charity.

Staff Travelling

Pray for TLM England and Wales staff travelling to Nepal this week: for their safety and protection. Pray that they can collect stories and information about how leprosy affects the people we serve, which will touch the hearts of donors and inspire them to give generously to the work of the Mission.

World Mission Partnership

Give thanks for the welcome TLM England and Wales received at a meeting with World Mission, with whom they are associate partners, and for the opportunity to meet with many influential church leaders in the Church of England who can raise awareness about leprosy.

Supporter Care

We continue to give thanks for TLM England and Wales's Supporter Care team and how it copes with its daily, challenging volume of work. Give thanks for Sandra who coordinates the work and for each member of the team: Rachel, Caroline, Elaine, Josh and volunteers Pat, Elizabeth, Jenny and Pauline who faithfully commit their time during the week to help TLM England and Wales accomplish so much.

Customer Relationship Management

Continue to pray for the work of the Customer Relationship Management project team as they work on the detail of implementing the project; showing and testing the component blocks to users and continuing to data cleanse and the change control

process.

Stamps

Give thanks for TLM England and Wales's stamps volunteers, Mandy, Fay, John and Shirley who open donated parcels of stamps, sort and bag them and write thank you cards. Without these volunteers the team would not be able to fulfil the dealers' orders.

12 - 18 March

India

Repealing Discrimination

A Private Members' Bill for repealing discriminatory laws (like the Eliminating Discrimination against People Affected by Leprosy Bill [EDPAL] which we have been praying for) is slated to be presented in the Parliament in the Winter Session starting from 15th December 2017. We do not know at time of writing whether it will have been presented. God's intervention is needed for this Bill (Private Members' Bill) or EDPAL Bill to be passed in the Parliament.

Lobbying

TLM India's state core teams in various states are lobbying with the respective state governments for implementation of the recommendations in Report 256 of the Law Commission of India. Please pray that the state governments take up the issues seriously.

19 - 25 March

Nigeria

Fundraising

TLM Nigeria's fundraising team is in the second year of implementing its fundraising plan. We thank God for the new partnerships and relationships and commit the strategic fundraising plan for 2018 to Him. Pray that God will continuously favour and guide the fundraising team to the right prospective corporate sponsors, institutional funders, and individual donors. Ask that God will grant the team wisdom to harness available opportunities, and equip them with innovative ideas for the development of new channels of income and partnership.

Leadership Change

We thank God for Dr Moses Onoh who acted as country leader while Dr Sunday Udo was away on leave of absence, and we thank God for a successful handover. Pray to God for wisdom and grace for Dr Sunday as he resumes.

Operating Theatre

The newly constructed operating theatre for the Leprosy Referral Hospital in Niger State of Nigeria has added a lot of value and improved healthcare provided to persons affected by leprosy. The government has written formally to appreciate TLM Nigeria for the support and pledged to ensure sustainability of the facility; and assurance to address the issues of personnel, and access road. They have repaired the standby generator and now provide funding for fuel to the hospital management. We thank God for improved commitment and visibility to the concerns of people affected by leprosy.

Singapore

Fundraising

The Board in Singapore are facing obstacles in raising the amounts they hoped to commit to helping people affected by leprosy. Pray for wisdom and innovation as they approach potential donors, and for God to move people's hearts and inspire them to give to this worthy cause.

Easter

Good Friday

"But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed." (*Isaiah 53:5 NLT*)

Easter Sunday

"We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him." (*Romans 6:9 ESV*)
Give thanks that we have the privilege of serving The Living God!

