

# **Prayer & Praise**

Strengthening the Leprosy Mission Family through Prayer

December 2024

"And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."" Luke 2:10

## Kiribati

# Saturday 30 November/ Sunday 1 December

Please pray for wisdom and discernment during the staff recruitment process. Pray that The Leprosy Mission NZ will find, and hire committed, passionate people who align with the organisation's values and mission.

## **Timor Leste**

# Monday 2 December

Please pray for the Community Health Volunteers who work to make people in the communities aware of issues around gender equality, disability and health. Please pray that as awareness grows people will be inspired to encourage and advocate for those in their communities who need assistance and support.

#### **Tuesday 3 December**

Today is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Please pray for meaningful observance and activities around this day in Timor Leste. Pray for successful training initiatives that support the inclusion of people with disabilities in their communities. This year the focus is on supporting individuals affected by leprosy, and other vulnerable groups, through the establishment of horticultural groups.

### Wednesday 4 December

Collaboration between all the groups involved with the Preventative Health and Community Empowerment Programme is vital so that the programme can be effective. Give thanks for the developing relationships with community leaders and local authorities and pray that these relationships will be strengthened for the benefit of the local people.

#### **Thursday 5 December**

As programme activities are rolled out please pray that people affected by leprosy will become actively involved. Pray that they will be encouraged and hopeful for their own and their families' future. Pray for breakthrough in awareness around leprosy and its cure.

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#### Saturday 7 December/ Sunday 8 December

Give thanks for the staff of TLM Timor Leste and please pray for their health and well-being. Please pray for dedication to achieving positive outcomes in their work. Also lift up the Board Members and the Director of TLM TL and give thanks for their commitment and positive input.

#### Nepal

#### Monday 9 December

There was extensive damage to parts of Anandaban Hospital from the landslide in September. Please pray for the family of Vivek, a staff member who was killed in the landslide, as they grieve their loss and adjust to life without him. Please pray that God will provide for all those traumatised by the event and that He will heal their hearts.

#### **Tuesday 10 December**

Part of the Self-care Unit was badly damaged, and the unit has not been able to be used. Give thanks that self-care classes will begin again this month. The classes will be delivered with integrated services in the inpatient wards.

#### Wednesday 11 December

The leprosy ward is not suitable to use because of a tension crack seen nearby. It will need major repairs. Give thanks that the leprosy inpatient service is currently being delivered in the Trauma Centre and the first floor of the Emergency Department building. Give thanks that patients can still receive the care they need.

#### **Thursday 12 December**

There are less beds available for inpatients, but planning is underway to increase the number of beds. Please pray that the ongoing services can continue as assessments are carried out and that all the patients can get the care they need.

#### Friday 13 December

Give thanks that water supply and drainage systems were restored a few days after the landslide. Electricity was made available through the use of Anandaban Hospital's generator and continuous electricity supply was restored after three days. Road blockages were removed and access for a single vehicle was restored after two days. Give thanks that all these essential services are now continuing to run.

## Saturday 14 December / Sunday 15 December

Please pray for Anandaban Hospital, as some of the land may not be safe for long-term use. Assessments need to be made by the government, who own the land. Pray that the hospital will continue to provide the exceptional services it always has and pray for wisdom for the administrators and the TLM Country Leader as they consider the future. Please pray for favour with the government of Nepal.

#### India

#### Monday 16 December

Give thanks that with God's help staff of The Leprosy Mission Trust India can support people affected by leprosy in their illness and uncertainty. The support may be in the form of treatment, but also with interventions that help them become financially independent. Pray for God's grace to reach more people to reduce the number of people affected by leprosy and those affected by discrimination.

## **Tuesday 17 December**

Leprosy requires special expertise and passion. Please give thanks for those serving people affected by leprosy in hospitals. Please pray that TLM Trust India can recruit and train specialist doctors so that the hospitals and other centres can serve patients well.

## Wednesday 18 December

We pray that the research being carried out by TLM TI laboratories will bring breakthrough in leprosy treatment, prevention and care. Give thanks for the research staff and pray that they become more confident to disseminate their results nationally and globally. Please pray that the well-being and dignity of patients, families and individuals will be top priority.

## Thursday 19 December

Changing regulations and requirements bring challenges in the provision of healthcare services. Please pray for the resources to meet the needs and that the work can continue. Please pray that staff can comply with laws that are frequently changing.

## Friday 20 December

Give thanks that TLM TI has community-based rehabilitation projects to counsel and support individuals to become skilled and to access livelihood opportunities. Praise God for the wisdom to customise their work according to local needs. Pray for increased income as people gain skills to help themselves.

# Saturday 21 December/ Sunday 22 December

The community-based projects empower communities to raise awareness amongst local leaders on leprosy, gender equality, human rights and inclusion. Give thanks that they build the capacity of Self-help Groups in leadership and advocacy.

# Papua New Guinea

# Monday 23 December

Give thanks for the continuous support of donors in New Zealand, who generously respond to the needs of people affected by leprosy in Papua New Guinea. Please pray that God will bless them this Christmas. Also pray that the staff and volunteers of the PHACE Programme in PNG will stay safe during their Christmas holidays and will enjoy time with their families.

## **Tuesday 24 December**

Please pray that the outcome of the final Learning and Reflection activities carried out this month will mean motivation and dedication by team members of TLM PNG. Pray that they will be further energised to carry out their roles with compassion, wisdom and diligence in the service of people affected by leprosy and disability.

## Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day today! God bless you as you celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please pray that everyone affected by leprosy and disability will come to know the Grace of God and be able to live with His peace through Jesus Christ.

## Thursday 26 December

Give thanks that significant progress has been made in the last six months on the PNG Climate Change Resilience Programme. The programme has been introduced to fifteen target communities. Give thanks for the strong relationships being built between TLM PNG, community leaders and other key participants.

# Friday 27 December

Thank the Lord that community engagement, training and awareness of climate change issues has begun. These are essential for laying the foundations of sustainable practices and empowering people in the communities. Please pray that enthusiasm for the programme will continue as community members learn more.

# Saturday 28 December/ Sunday 29 December

Please pray for all the people affected by leprosy who are undergoing treatment. Pray that they can get the medication and will take it as required. Also please give thanks for all the volunteers who are active in finding cases of leprosy and raising awareness in the communities. Pray that God will bless them and their families and that they will be encouraged in what they do.

## Worldwide

## Monday 30 December

Give thanks that The Leprosy Mission Ethiopia works to increase knowledge about leprosy among health professionals in Woredas, an area with a high incidence of leprosy. They want to be able to identify new cases. Please pray that the government will implement a programme to distribute rifampicin to help prevent leprosy.

## Tuesday 31 December

The Leprosy Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo has 26 staff members, who are committed to the fight to defeat leprosy. Give thanks that they work in partnership with the government, churches and the Organisation of Persons Affected by Leprosy. As they find new cases of leprosy, care for people with leprosy-related disabilities and support people affected by leprosy with their mental health, please pray that the staff members will keep good health and be safe as they travel.