

► Congratulations to **Rev. Ted Rathman** who was confirmed as the new Global Ministries Associate at the National Ministry Team meeting of March 15<sup>th</sup>. Ted has served on the Global Ministries board for several years and pastors our Schuylkill Haven Grace E.C. Church. He has accompanied current GMA Rev. Randy Sizemore on several international trips. Ted will be installed at National Conference this year and begin his duties on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He and his family would appreciate your prayers as he begins serving bi-vocationally.

► **BJ Whitaker** gives praise for a great men's retreat in late February. They had about 35 men attend, not all of whom were believers. In a culture (Spain) which rarely allows for men to express feelings or share challenges, fears, broken relationships and difficult life situations, it was amazing to see walls come down and have open discussions. One non-Christian was so impressed he said he wanted to bring his entire family to Evangelical events. Praise God!

► **Robert & Bettina Schaeffer** thank everyone for their prayers for his father's health. Robert's father recently had to have a knee replacement and was a bit concerned about the pain levels and rehab. He is doing well.

► **Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus** give praise that Janice's test results have all been very good. She had her last surgery in early March to remove the port used for the immunotherapy treatments. She will need final clearance from her doctors, but at this point the Stoltzfuses are beginning to plan for a return to Rift Valley Academy in August.

► **Randy Sizemore** will be traveling to Japan this month (4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>) at the request of Rev. Nobuo Abe, Chairman of EC Church – Japan. He will be meeting with the boards of the various churches to explain expectations and responsibilities of board members, as some of these have changed since the passing of Rev. Dr. John Masuda. Carla will accompany Randy and meet with pastors' wives.

► **Dan & Melinda Moury**'s house was broken into in mid-February while they were at work and school. Computers and personal electronics were taken. Aside from the concern of possible identity theft, they are dealing with the feeling of not being safe in their own home. Please keep them in prayer for their personal safety and safety of private information.

► **David and Conce Roof** will be in the USA from late March through the end of May. They already are booked for all open dates so they can't take any more speaking assignments. Please do keep them in prayer for traveling mercies as they will be driving from PA to Indiana and back again.

► **Jonita Wilson**, youngest daughter of Jonathan and Kathy Wilson, is serving a six month internship/semester abroad in Capetown, South Africa. Jonita is a student at Cornerstone University where she is pursuing a degree in Christian Ministry with a minor in Psychology. She plans on going into full time Christian service after graduation.



# NEPAL

**T**he Evangelical Congregational Church of India began the E.C. mission outreach to eastern Nepal resulting in the planting of ten churches. We



officially inaugurated the E.C. Church of Nepal in June, 2003. Some of the Nepalese leaders were trained at the Evangelical College of Theology in Churachandpur, India.

In June, 2003 the churches elected a leadership team of five people to lead this new conference of the E.C. Church, and a church center was established at Dharan, in eastern Nepal. In January 2009 the E.C. church of Nepal became its own international conference. The Director is Rev. T. Janga.

The EC Church of Nepal is meeting the spiritual and physical needs of this nation through the planting of local churches, intentional discipleship, leadership training and a variety of hands-on ministries that meet the physical needs of orphans, widows and families. Rev. Janga and his wife Mercy are housing eight orphan boys at Mercy Home, a facility for orphans of Christian families.

In November of 2017 a delegation from India, Japan and the USA traveled to Nepal to participate in the Annual Conference of ECCN which included a first-ever “Youth Gospel Olympics”. The delegation included Rev. Nobuo Abe and Yoriyoshi Abe from Japan, Rev. Dr. Kaitinkap Vaiphei from India, GMA Rev. Randy Sizemore, Rev. Nathan Kennedy, pastor at Jim Thorpe EC and chairman of the India/Nepal Committee, and Rev. Tim King and his drama team. This exciting conference was held at the new ECCN compound in Dharan with 250 registered for conference and about 350 attending daily.

One of the highlights of this trip was the official dedication of the new structure called Mercy Home which serves as the headquarters of ECCN, an orphanage for boys and the “parsonage” for Janga’s family. One of the local EC congregations, Bethel Church is also located on the compound.

Despite government threats of fines and imprisonments for anyone trying to evangelize for any other religion besides Hinduism, the EC Church of Nepal continues to grow as God changes hearts and heals souls. Please pray for our pastors there, for their personal safety in the face of persecution.

–Pat Strain

# EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



# APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 <i>- Mary Reimer *</i></p> <p><b>Hallelujah! Christ arose!</b> </p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>David &amp; Conce Roof</b> – in USA through May to do deputation</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pray for the <b>EC Church of India</b> which consists of six presbyteries, each a distinct tribe; pray for unity of spirit and purpose</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Pray for <b>Rev. Randy Sizemore</b> as he and Carla travel to Japan to meet with the governing boards of the EC churches there</p>	<p>5 <i>- Abigail Farr (2007)</i></p> <p>Pray for the <b>various retreats</b> being held at Twin Pine Camp this month.</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Robert &amp; Bettina Schaeffer</b> – work with LIFE ministries, Robert's father recovering from surgery</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pray for the <b>EC Church of Mexico</b>, now the EC Church-Latin America. Pray for their vision to spread the Gospel beyond their own borders</p>
<p>8</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> <b>Brian &amp; Missy Wagner</b> – teacher and administrator at Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya – sponsors of the junior class there</p>	<p>9</p> <p><b>BJ and Rachel Whitaker</b> – church planters in Alcora, Spain – that they may see fruit from the many outreach programs</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Jim &amp; Janet Stahl</b> – getting settled in back in Lehigh Valley; more trips out of country</p>	<p>11</p> <p><b>Dan &amp; Mary Lynne Wills</b> – serving at the JAARS headquarters in North Carolina – Dan is Resources Director and Mary Lynne is in the accounting.</p>	<p>12 <i>- Deborah Bowers</i></p> <p><b>Lamar &amp; Janice Stoltzfus</b> – praise for good reports for Janice; starting to make plans for return to RVA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pray for the <b>EC Church of Liberia</b>, as they use literacy classes to train their people not only to read, but to learn God's Word</p>	<p>14</p> <p><b>Rev. Joe Toy</b> – open air evangelism in the greater Philadelphia area and at special national events</p>
<p>15</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> <b>Rev. Don Kunkel</b>, retired missionary in Idaho – still dealing with the loss of his wife and life partner, Kathryn</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Pray for <b>Major Josh Metz</b>, chaplain, teaching ethics at the US Army Chemical School in Missouri</p>	<p>17</p> <p><b>Gloria Smethers</b> – one of only two nurses serving the residents of AIM Retirement Center in Florida</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pray for the <b>EC Church – Japan</b> as they do vision casting for ways to move forward in reaching their country for Christ</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pray for <b>Marcia Hopler</b>, retired missionary living in Philadelphia, PA &amp; active in her church plant</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pray for the <b>leaders of our international EC Churches</b> as they lead their respective fields in reaching their countries for Christ</p>	<p>21</p> <p><b>Ed &amp; Val Schubert</b> – working with at risk children and women in Honduras</p>
<p>22</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Many of our missionaries are struggling with being financially under-supported; please pray and consider if you or your church could help in some way</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Pray for our <b>church planters</b> both in the USA and abroad; for stamina to forge ahead even when there isn't much growth to be seen</p>	<p>24 <i>- Jared Farr (2008)</i> <i>- Elijah Hershey (2014)</i></p> <p>Pray for the <b>persecuted church</b>, especially in China where a crackdown on underground churches is going on</p>	<p>25</p> <p><b>Tomoyuki &amp; Jessica Abe</b> – church planters in Fuchinobe, Japan – wisdom in ways to move forward</p>	<p>26</p> <p><b>Cassie Wells</b> – serving with Disciple Makers on the campus of Kutztown University</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Ken Sears</b> – teaching at Zaporozhzhye Bible Seminary in Ukraine; preaching at local churches</p>	<p>28 <i>- Junia Hershey (2011)</i></p> <p>Pray for the <b>EC Church of Nepal</b> as they share the Gospel despite laws meant to shut down evangelism</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for <b>Bishop Bruce Hill</b> as the time for National Conference approaches; many things to be finalized and a very busy schedule</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>Jonathan and Kathy Wilson</b> – Bible translators in Papua New Guinea -working with Binandere people</p>					<p><i>*DENOTES RETIREE</i> <i>+ DENOTES CANDIDATE</i></p>

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

May 4 – Nancy G.  
May 4 – Conce Roof  
May 5 – Valerie Schubert  
May 6 – Carolyn Miller \*  
May 6 – Jamie Farr  
May 13 – Cassandra Wells

### ANNIVERSARIES

April 4 – Chris & Deborah Bowers