

▶ **John and Carolyn Miller** have relocated permanently to the USA. They are now living in NY with their youngest daughter. The new mailing address, effective immediately, is 9788 Circle Drive, Houghton, NY 14744. Thanks to modern technology, the Millers will be able to continue doing their work for SIL-Wycliffe. They are checking on Bru translation updates to scripture and dictionary.

▶ **Gloria Smethers** will be coming to PA for the month of October to visit friends and supporters. She will be available for speaking from October 6-26. Her Sunday mornings are already booked, but she would be available Sunday evenings or for midweek events. Call Pat at the GMC office at 1-800-866-7584 or email to ecglobal@eccenter.com for more information or to make arrangements to have Gloria come and share about her work.

▶ Congratulations to **Donovan Stoltzfus**, who will be graduating from Rift Valley Academy in Kijabe, Kenya next month. Donovan will be returning to the USA this summer with his parents and will be going to college in the USA this fall.

▶ **Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus** along with son Donovan (see above) will be returning to the USA in late July for a year of home assignment. They will be staying at the Trinity EC Missionary apts at 38 E. Orange Street, Lititz, PA 17543. Lamar & Janice are eager to share about their work and Rift Valley Academy with our EC churches. Please call or email Pat at the GMC office to make arrangements to have the Stoltzfuses come to your church or small group and share.

▶ **Changes coming** – This will be the last month that you will see a monthly Global Prayer Guide from the Global Ministries Commission. No, we aren't stopping our publication. GMC, along with all the other commissions of the EC Church will be undergoing a transition with our new denominational structure. We will become the **Global Ministries Community** (same initials!) beginning in July. Watch for more information from the denomination on the upcoming changes. Your pastor and lay delegate should already be familiar with this information.

▶ Both **Japan** and **North East India** (along the border with Myanmar) have suffered earthquakes in the past few months. We are grateful that none of our EC churches or church members was directly affected by the tremors, but there was a lot of destruction and loss of life, especially in Japan. Please keep our EC church members in both areas in prayer as they try to help and witness to their fellow countrymen during this time of loss.

▶ **BJ and Rachel Whitaker with daughters Miriam and Laura** are in the USA this summer to visit friends and supporters. They will be with BJ's family in late May, then move to the former Millersville EC church parsonage in mid-June. The Whitakers are arranging their own speaking schedule, so you will need to contact them directly to see if they have any free dates. The email is bj.whitaker@ecmi.org.



Lost in Translation

Modern technology is an amazing thing. We have smart phones and smart TV's, with hundreds of apps. There is even an app that supposedly can translate the human voice into 'dog speak or 'cat speak', so you can communicate in your pet's language. However, the demonstration video I watched didn't go so well; the woman spoke into the phone, which turned it into meows for the cat. Evidently "I love you Fluffy" didn't translate very well, since the cat attacked her owner after hearing the message!

That reminded me of a game I played as a child, 'Whisper Down the Valley.' Someone whispered a message in the first person's ear, and then they had to whisper it as quickly as possible without repeating it to the next person, and so on. By the time the message was received by the last person, it usually bore no resemblance to what was originally said. The more people who passed the message along, the more garbled it became.

Sometimes that happens when God tries to speak to us. If we haven't been in the habit of spending time with Him in His word or in prayer, we may not understand what He is saying to us, if we even hear His voice. In I Samuel 3, God spoke to Samuel, but he was too young to recognize God's voice. It took Samuel coming to Eli three times, mistakenly assuming that it was Eli who had called him, before Eli recognized that it was the Lord who had called Samuel. Eli had become spiritually hard of hearing, and had to be prompted several times before he knew his Master's voice.

As anyone who has visited a foreign country knows, communication can be difficult when a different language is spoken than the one with which you are familiar. In order to gain fluency, the best thing to do is immerse yourself in the new language; if possible, live in an area where it is spoken regularly, listen closely to learn the cadence and rhythm, and try to interact with local people in their language even at a basic level.

If we want to truly hear and understand what God is saying to us through His Holy Spirit, we have to be familiar with His voice; to do that, we have to immerse ourselves in His word and spend time with Him in prayer; not just talking to Him, but listening. Like Samuel, we should be able to say, "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening." (I Samuel 3:10b)

Pat Strain

EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



JUNE 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
	ANNIVERSARIES June 15 – BJ & Rachel Whitaker		PRAYER NEEDS BJ & Rachel Whitaker – beginning a summer home assignment in the USA	Roy & Sue Haglund – serving at MAF headquarters in Idaho	Day of prayer in the EC Church – join EC'ers around the world in prayer	Pray for GMC Director Randy Sizemore and his responsibilities
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
– Hannah Moury (2002)  PRAYER NEEDS The EC Church of Nepal – physical safety for the pastors and church leaders in this predominantly Hindu nation	– Bonnie Bound* – Kent Ehrman (2000)  Rev. Joe Toy – open air ministry in the greater Philadelphia area and Camden, NJ	Pray for our EC church planters around the world, that they may be able to reach their communities	Janet Baker – retired missionary living in Lebanon, PA	Pray for Rev. Lalrosiem Songate as he works on finishing his thesis for his doctoral dissertation	Dan & Mary Lynne Willis – serving at the JAARS center in North Carolina	– Wendy Toy  Pray for the EC Church of Liberia as they move forward under new leadership
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
PRAYER NEEDS Rev. Dan Moury – serving as videographer for Wycliffe Bible Translators at headquarters in Orlando, FL – heavy project list	Jim & Joan Farr – serving as linguists and translators for the Baruga and Korafe people of Papua New Guinea	Pray for all our MK's who are graduating from high school or college, and their future plans	John & Carolyn Miller – settling into their new permanent home in NY – pray for a smooth transition to life in the USA	Pray for Yoriyoshi & Emiko Abe as they reach out through the Garden Church church plant in Japan	– Ed Schubert – Miriam Whitaker (2010)  Pray for the persecuted church around the world , especially in closed access countries	– Melissa Wagner – David Roof  Jim Ehrman – serving on board of Rivendell Institute at Yale, as well as director of Love 146
18	29	21	22	23	24	25
PRAYER NEEDS Praise God for Christian fathers who raise their children to love the Lord	Pray for the EC Church of Mexico as they do outreach to street kids in neighborhoods	Rev. David Dick – serving at OMS headquarters in Greenwood, IN	– Janice Stoltzfus  Pray for the VBS/GMC Project this year, that we might raise the needed \$10,000	– Kitty Miller*  Pray for the District Field Directors , who will lead our 13 districts	– Rachel Whitaker  Rev. Jim & Bonnie Bound – retired but still serving the Lord in Wolcott, VT	Beth Grimm (c)  Pray for the EC Church of India and the missionaries they send out to neighboring countries
26	27	28	29	30		
PRAYER NEEDS Pray for the EC Church USA leadership team as they work to have the new structure of the denomination up and running next month, the beginning of the new Conference year	Jim & Janet Stahl – leading seminars to teach native speakers how to tell Bible stories accurately in their own language	– Wesley Reimer*  EC Church-Japan – fortunately none of our EC churches were affected by recent earthquakes, but pray for that region	– Bettina Schaeffer  Rev. Robert & Bettina Schaeffer – working with LIFE Ministries in NY and PA, pastoring in St. Clair, PA	Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus – preparations to return to USA next month for a year of home assignment	*DENOTES RETIREE <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> JULY BIRTHDAYS July 7 – Jim Ehrman July 9 – Rev. Dan Dixon July 13 – Rev. Kurt Graff July 15(1999) – Hannah Wagner </div>	