

► **CORRECTION – Barbara Erb** is not living in IL. Although officially retired, Barbara continues to live and minister in Suriname as she has for her missionary career. She has a US mailing address for business/legal mail only. If you wish to contact Barbara, please use her email, barbaraerb@gmail.com.

► **Ed & Val Schubert** have been having controlled food distribution events in their hometown of Zambrano. Many people literally only make enough to feed their families day by day, so the government shutdown of all businesses is making life very harsh. Schuberts have been able to buy some basic staples in bulk to distribute to the neediest families, in part because those who control the supply chain know that the Schuberts are helping the most endangered in the community.

► **Dan Quigley** would like prayer for wisdom as to when the center where he works in Nicaragua should reopen. They work mostly with school age children, but most of those children live in multi-generational homes, so if the coronavirus is carried in, it can affect many family members. The government has been slow to even acknowledge that the virus exists, and the medical facilities are inadequate to deal with a pandemic. Dan has chosen to self-isolate with a family member in FL.

► **BJ and Rachel Whitaker** give praise that the strict lockdown in Spain was loosened in late April. They and their two young daughters weren't allowed to leave their apartment for over 40 days except for medical needs or groceries. Now they can stay outside for an hour a day so that the children can play and exercise. Hurray!

► Praise also that **Cassie Wells** is feeling healthy again. Cassie had some symptoms of Covid 19 in early April, so she was tested. The test came back negative, but her doctors advised her that it might be a false negative and that she should self-isolate. She did this, restricting herself to her bedroom so her roommates wouldn't catch the virus. As of late April, she was feeling better, showed no signs of the virus, and can mingle with her roommates once again.

► **David & Conce Roof** would like prayer for two family members who are medical workers in Brazil. Both are doctors who, like US medical personnel, are being overwhelmed by the number of patients with Covid 19 and not enough equipment. Their niece has already contracted the virus and is self-isolating, and their nephew continues to work on the front lines.

► We know these are difficult times for individuals and churches. Most of our churches haven't been able to hold physical services since mid-March; and even now we don't know what services will look like when we can meet in person again. We would urge you to continue to support our missionaries as your finances permit. If your church isn't currently meeting, or if you don't feel safe going to public gatherings, you can still support missionaries by going online through our EC website, www.eccenter.com. Go to the Global Ministries Community segment and find the missionary you wish to support. If you need help, our Finance Office personnel would be happy to help you. You can also send checks to Global Ministries directly. Make checks payable to E C Church, and in the memo section designate which missionary or international field you wish to support. Checks should be mailed to EC Global Ministries, 100 W. Park Ave., Myerstown, PA 18067. Your payment will be processed and a receipt sent. Feel free to call the Global Ministries office if you have any questions. The number is 1-800-866-7584 and office hours are Tuesday – Thursday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thank you for your support.

► Our **VBS project** for this year is to raise funds for our **EC Church of Latin America**. They want to renovate a building to use for training programs for teaching children. The goal is \$10,000. Look for materials on our website.



Extreme Makeover

As I write this (early May), most of the USA and the rest of the world are still under some form of lockdown due to the coronavirus. Here in the USA, people have reacted to having to stay at home in various ways. One of the more interesting ways is that they are starting all those home projects that had been put off due to other time constraints. Suddenly, folks find themselves with time on their hands and they want to be productive. Friends and family that work at hardware stores report that they are having trouble keeping up with the requests for paint and lumber. I guess now that most people are stuck inside four walls, they've taken a good look around and decided to improve the view.

This made me think of what God does for us when we really allow Him to work in our hearts and lives. Most of the time we don't realize how much dirt is accumulating in our souls, even as believers. We think we're keeping up with devotions and time with the Lord, but the 'grime' creeps in so gradually we just don't notice it. It may be harboring grudges, bad attitudes, jealousy, envy, and/or anger. Especially during the current circumstances, it's easy to focus on ourselves and our needs and not worry about how our neighbors might be doing, physically, socially or spiritually.

We don't see the gradual accumulation of dirt in our lives. But God does, and He longs to clean it out, refresh us, and give us new hearts. Paul discusses this principle over and over again in his letters. In his letter to Titus, he reminds us "...*He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior...*(Titus 3:5b-6 NIV)

In Hebrews, Paul writes "...*let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.* (Hebrews 10:22-23 NIV)

Renovation and renewal always involve some mess and expense. God, in his grace and mercy, cleans up our messy lives. And the cost of the renovation was covered by the shed blood of Jesus our Savior. Let's use some of this 'down time' that has been forced upon us by circumstances to look inwardly and see what really needs to be renovated in our lives, as well as our homes.

Pat Strain

EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



JUNE 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 PRAYER NEEDS Cassie Wells – praise that her case of coronavirus was mild and she's now fully recovered	2 Pray that our churches may begin holding services again soon and that it will be safe for folks to gather to worship	3 Jim & Janet Stahl – how to adapt Bible storytelling techniques to online media conferences and teaching sessions	4 Pray for Rev. Nobuo Abe , Chairman of the EC Church of Japan – wisdom in how to move forward	5 – Hannah Moury (2002) Joe Toy – continuing open air evangelism in greater Phila and Camden NJ areas	6 – Bonnie Bound * Pray that believers will be good witnesses to their families and neighbors as restrictions lift
7 PRAYER NEEDS Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus – health and safety while remaining at RVA campus in Kenya, planning for summer/fall	8 – Leah Rathman (2014) Rev. Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe – still hoping to visit the USA in July to share about their new ministries	9 Pray for Jane Heck , retired missionary caring for her father in Ohio and teaching part time in a local Christian school	10 Jonathan & Kathy Wilson – bible translators in Papua New Guinea – need to be in contact with village translators	11 – Wendy Toy Pray for Rev. Jeff Byerly , Kingdom Extension Associate – that more men will answer the call to full time ministry	12 Gloria Smethers – full time nurse at AIM Retirement Center in FL – praise they have not had any cases of virus yet	13 Pray for Rev. Abraham Powell , bishop of the EC Church of Liberia – that church will survive yet another epidemic
14 PRAYER NEEDS Rev. Dr. Lalrosiem Songate , principal of Evangelical College of Theology –fall classes and what that will look like post-Covid 19	15 Robert & Bettina Schaeffer – working with LIFE ministries & pastoring in St. Clair, PA	16 BJ & Rachel Whitaker – church planters in Alcora, Spain – wisdom in future planning for another church plant	17 – Ed Schubert – Miriam Whitaker (2010) Pray for Rev. Juan Zuñiga , Superintendent of the EC Church of Latin America – vision for expanding churches	18 – Melissa Wagner – David Roof Pray for Major Josh Metz , Chaplain with the US Army, serving in Missouri	19 Pray for our international churches , since many countries do not have a health care system that can handle a pandemic	20 Brian & Missy Wagner – still searching for a house in PA, plans to return to RVA in Kenya
21 HAPPY Father's DAY PRAYER NEEDS Praise God for Christian fathers who model their faith for their children	22 – Janice Stoltzfus Pray for our pastors as they seek ways to meet the needs of congregations that have arisen due to the coronavirus	23 – Kitty Miller * Pray for Roy & Sue Haglund , retired missionaries living in Idaho	24 – Rachel Whitaker Dan & Mary Lynne Wills – serving at JAARS Center in NC – helping missionaries prepare for field during uncertain times	25 – Beth Grimm Rev. Th. Janga – field leader of the EC Churches in Nepal – safety and supplies for family and church members	26 Ed & Val Schubert – ministering to children, marginalized families in Honduras – food distribution program	27 Pray for the new General Director of ECCI – setting vision during these difficult times
28 – Wesley Reimer * PRAYER NEEDS Renewed call to continue support for our missionaries during these uncertain times	29 – Bettina Schaeffer Ken Sears – health and safety while ministering in Ukraine during pandemic	30 Pray for the persecuted church , especially in North Korea	ANNIVERSARIES June 15 – BJ & Rachel Whitaker June 21 – Ted & Jessica Rathman July 14 – Dan & Mary Lynne Wills		BIRTHDAYS July 13 – Rev. Kurt G. July 15 (1999) – Hannah Wagner	

*DENOTES RETIREE