

OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

- ▶ We wish to extend our sympathies to **Rev. Matthew Gueh**, our field leader in Liberia, on the passing of his mother. Mama Gueh passed away from natural causes in early November. She had lived for many years with Matthew and his family since the death of her husband.

- ▶ Please continue to keep our EC Church of Liberia, especially the leadership team, in prayer. The leadership team has taken it on themselves to go to some of the outlying villages where we have churches and teach them proper hygiene to prevent the spread of ebola. The team is taking bleach and rubber gloves, arranging for containment centers for those who have the disease and training the healthy folks on how to remain that way.

- ▶ The situation in the Ukraine continues to be tense in the light of the recent elections. The Russian separatists are still holding two areas in eastern Ukraine, and Russia has pledged not to 'desert' them. **Ken Sears** has said that the students and teachers at his Bible college are trying to continue with their lives without letting the situation control them. Please continue to keep this situation in prayer.

- ▶ **Ed & Val Schubert** have asked for prayer that the electrical project for their day care in Tegucigalpa be approved so they can use their new building.

- ▶ **Chris Bowers**, who teaches mission aviation in Washington state, recently completed an extended cross country trip with his student pilots. All went well, and it was a good learning experience for everyone. Wife Deb and girls Katie and Emily were glad to have Chris back home!

- ▶ Several of our missionaries are still facing severe financial deficits. If you can help by picking up some of their support, or even a one-time gift to help their bottom line, please contact Pat at the GMC office (1-800-866-7584 or ecglobal@eccenter.com) Thank you!

- ▶ The **VBS Project for 2015** will be to raise monies to help with Mercy Home, the orphanage in Nepal that our field leader Rev. Th. Janga and his wife Mercy, run. Currently they have 8 boys that they are caring for, as well as their own family, in a rented facility. The landlord has told them that they must move, so this is an urgent need. More information will be available next year but please be in prayer for this situation now.



GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION
OF THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE

DECEMBER 2014



WIPE YOUR FEET

AS WINTER WEATHER APPROACHES for most of us, it is often accompanied by various forms of precipitation. The autumn leaves may not all have been cleaned up, and the ground and sidewalks are often covered with various forms of debris and slush.

Growing up, the first thing I would hear when I walked into my house during this season was my mother saying 'wipe your feet!' She didn't want all that dirt dragged into the carpet or her kitchen. So there was a mat outside the front door as well as one on the inside, just to make sure the dirt didn't get tracked throughout the house and ground into the carpet.

Jesus had something to say about dirt as well. In the gospel of Matthew, chapter 10, Jesus sends his disciples out to tell Israel that the Kingdom of God is near. In verses 11-15 he instructs them to go into a village and accept any offered hospitality. However, if the people of the house or the residents of the town will not accept the truth of the Gospel, the disciples are to shake the dirt of that place from their feet. In other words, they are to get rid of all traces of those places that are resistant to the Truth.

Those of us who call ourselves Christians should take a lesson from this. So often the 'dirt' of the world is dragged into our churches today. Attitudes towards sin have been softened (no one wants to be labeled judgmental or a bigot), and many have the idea that our God is so loving He wouldn't let anyone go to hell. Even the belief that there are multiple ways to get to heaven has been creeping into evangelical circles.

These attitudes are not new. Ever since the first century there have been people who have tried to rearrange the words of Christ to suit their own philosophies and purposes. And ever since that time, the apostles and true followers of Jesus have had to stand their ground and defend the faith.

We too must be careful about dragging the mores of our culture into the church. As believers we are to be in the world but not of the world; often that is a delicate balance. But we must not let our culture convince us that the eternal words of the Gospel can be altered to make it more palatable for those who don't really want to live by its principles. Remember to wipe your feet.

"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written; The righteous shall live by faith." ROMANS 1:16-17 (NIV)

—Pat Strain



DECEMBER PRAYER CALENDAR INSIDE

FACILITATING MISSION WORKERS
EMPOWERING NATIONAL CHURCHES
ENGAGING THE LOCAL CHURCH

EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



DECEMBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY						
<p>ANNIVERSARIES December 10 – Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus December 12 – Randy & Chris Amberman</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6  - Sue Haglund						
	PRAYER NEEDS Robert & Bettina Schaeffer – serving with LIFE Ministries in NYC and Reading PA area	Please continue to pray for our EC leadership team and churches in Liberia	Jim & Joan Farr – back in Ukarumpa after time in their villages to check translations	Remember Rev. Matthew Gueh , field leader of Liberia, in prayer as he recently lost his mother	Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus – serving as administrators and teachers at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya	Joe Toy – distribution of Christmas stockings to underprivileged children in Philadelphia area						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13  - Dan Moury						
PRAYER NEEDS Pray for the EC Church-India as they continue to train and send out pastors and missionaries	Jim Ehrman – serving with Love 146 and Rivendell Institute	Pray for the EC Church of Mexico – praise for new church plants, pray for safety for those near border	Kitty Miller – still seeking God's will for her area of service with Wycliffe in USA	Pray for the EC Church of Nepal , that our pastors and their families may be safe from harm	Roy & Sue Haglund – serving in Idaho at headquarters for Mission Aviation Fellowship	Pray for Yoriyoshi & Emiko Abe , church planters currently working at Kyodo Grace Church, Japan						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						
PRAYER NEEDS Pray for Rev. Elias Martinez , leader of the EC Churches of Mexico	Pray for our EC-USA leaders: Bishop Bruce Hill , Conference Ministers	Janet Baker – retired missionary living in Lebanon, PA	Pray for Rev. Nobuo Abe , Chairman of the EC Church-Japan	Dan Moury – serving as videographer with Wycliffe at FL headquarters	Pray for Rev. Angam , General Director of the EC Church- India	Pray for Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe , church planters in Fuchinobe, Japan						
21	22	23	24	25 	26	27						
PRAYER NEEDS Christmas Missions Offering taken – this helps our international churches and GMC office expenses	Pray for the EC Church-Japan as they seek new ways to reach their people with the Gospel	Jim & Janet Stahl – training oral culture Bible story tellers to spread the Gospel to their own people	Pray for Rev. Th. Janga and wife Mercy , leaders of EC Church of Nepal and Mercy Home orphanage	Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: he is Christ the Lord.'	Pray for the EC Church of Mexico as they do outreach in areas south of our churches	Dan & Mary Lynne Wills – serving at JAARS headquarters in NC with Wycliffe and The Seed Company						
28  - Janet Stahl	29	30	31  - Gloria Smether	<p>JANUARY BIRTHDAYS *DENOTES RETIREE</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>January 2 – Jim Farr</td> <td>January 8 – Celia Dick</td> </tr> <tr> <td>January 3 – Lamar Stoltzfus</td> <td>January 10 – Dan Wills</td> </tr> <tr> <td>January 5 – Jim Stahl</td> <td>January 11 (1994) – Alyssa Stoltzfus</td> </tr> </table>			January 2 – Jim Farr	January 8 – Celia Dick	January 3 – Lamar Stoltzfus	January 10 – Dan Wills	January 5 – Jim Stahl	January 11 (1994) – Alyssa Stoltzfus
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PRAYER NEEDS Pray for Lalrosiem Songate , principal-lect of ECT in India, as he works on studies in USA.	Jim & Bonnie Bound – retired missionaries still ministering in VT	Ask the Lord how you can serve Him more effectively in the New Year										