

Prayer Diary NOVEMBER 2018

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalms 107:1

THURSDAY 1

SPAIN: Julia Mercer-Wilson in Alcalá de Henares

Please pray for 'The Greatest Show' – an intensive English weekend (2-4 November) for families of those who come to the weekly English club and summer outreach camps. Pray for the Lord to open up deeper level conversations, for our relationships to develop and for them to receive the message about the greatest show of love, the cross.

FRIDAY 2

AUSTRIA: David James, Field Leader

The ECM Austria prayer days take place from the 2- 4 November. Please pray for a good time of fellowship and sharing and caring for each other as we gather around God's word and look at what it means to be witnesses and evangelists in our current context.

SATURDAY 3

SPAIN: B.J. and Rachel Whitaker in Alcora

B.J. is part of the pastors' fraternity in the province of Castellón, and we have been praying for a long time that God would bring true unity to the Evangelical congregations of Castellón. We are really excited to see how God is moving here, because with the help of Ron Anderson, we are organizing a one-day consultation on 3 November to begin to prayerfully develop a united vision to reach the province with the Gospel together. Please pray that God would give His church true, deep, missional unity in Castellón.

SUNDAY 4

POLAND: Doug and Lila Groth in Mikolow

Please continue to pray for Doug and Lila Groth and their family as Doug has more investigations and treatment. And praise God for Philip their son and his friend Elizah who are helping with transport, receiving visitors and helping Lila with hospitality. Doug has a deep sense of God's presence and peace and was sharing the gospel in hospital. His prayer is for God to be glorified, whatever the outcome. At the time of writing (23 October) he is back home and preparing to celebrate Natalia, his daughter, and Michal's wedding on 27 October. His father is there already, from Oregon.

MONDAY 5

AUSTRIA: David and Linda James in Villach

We have been going through a heavy time - ongoing issues with Linda's dad, the worst two days of travel that David has ever experienced, many frustrating/niggling issues with David's work, difficult conversations with our lodger about his future and moving out. And then recently we found our cat had been hit by a car and was dead. Opposition often means we are doing something right. Last week David also had the opportunity to share his testimony with our neighbour and on Saturday we were blessed by and able to minister at our church service and at the teabus evening.

TUESDAY 6

SPAIN: Andy and Andrea Warner in Castellón

A and F have been with us for 3 years and are now moving to Germany for work. Join us in praising God for the changes in their lives and praying for their new life in Germany - they have already been welcomed by the local Vineyard church!

WEDNESDAY 7

ECM International: Board of Trustees

Please pray for the International Board of Trustees meeting today and with several matters of importance for the future of the mission. One of these is the progress being made in the search for a replacement for Chris Wigram. Wisdom and discernment are needed as they reflect on the feedback received from the mission family, in order to narrow the search criteria and seek God's person for the role. Another matter for prayer is consideration of the potential impact of Brexit on parts of the mission and its ministries and workers.

THURSDAY 8

Church Planting Consultant: Ron Anderson

Pray for the Young Leaders Gathering in Budapest (8-11 November). This is organized by the Lausanne Movement. Both Jim Memory and Ron have been asked to give presentations and seminars. Pray that the young leaders will be both challenged and encouraged to do what God is putting in their hearts to do. Pray that us "old" guys will be able to communicate well with them!

FRIDAY 9

GERMANY: Christiaan and Kseniya Kooiman in Schwerin

Please pray for one girl (10 years old) who comes every day to Patchwork Centre. She is very neglected by her parents and often does not go to school. Please pray that she will love God and that He will help her in her life. Please pray that we could get a better relationship with her parents.

SATURDAY 10

SPAIN: Hans and Jennifer Anderson on Home Assignment in USA

Praise God, we have the supportive feeling of being adopted by a new home church! We have been greatly encouraged in our time of support development. God willing, we will be fully funded and ready to return to Spain in January. We have stayed in contact with our co-laborers in Spain and are encouraged with the continuing work of the Lord in our absence.

SUNDAY 11

ITALY: Susanne Stoehr in Macherio

Thanks to God my teacher has improved a little bit. He has been able to walk a few steps with a walking aid. Please continue praying for him - Gianni - and his wife Pinuccia. She has for the first time said: *'I think there must indeed be someone up there as I don't know from where the strength has been coming to let me endure in going to hospital each day since 12 July'*. Please pray that the Holy Spirit might open up their hearts to the gospel. Please pray also for Mary Isabel for a job and that the social security office might finally give her a flat where she can live. She has been waiting for one for 7 years now and they have to decide in the next few weeks.

MONDAY 12

MALTA: Gina and Mark Borg

Pray for K and M in different stages of the first season of faith. Pray for wisdom & discernment for K as she grows in her faith & connection with an authentic Christian community for M. Also, for the ripple effect that their new faith has, as they speak about Jesus, in their workplace & with family & friends. Pray God sets our path straight as we walk out his direction for Education of the kids. Pray for them as they miss home as we hit our anniversary of one year & our second Christmas.

TUESDAY 13

ECM International: Trustee Advisory Group

Please pray for the members of the Advisory Group as they meet from 14th-15th November to review the online user handbook - the iGuide - and ways of improving some of the background documents that give structure and order to our life as a mission family. Pray that what comes out of these meetings will be helpful and useful to all of us.

WEDNESDAY 14

SPAIN: Julia Mercer-Wilson in Alcalá de Henares

Wednesday's - pray for Camina Kids (6-10 year olds) and Camina Teens (a new club for 11s-14s) that meet on Wednesday afternoons. May we trust in the Lord as shows us what he is going with these kids from their neighbourhood.

THURSDAY 15

SPAIN: James and Carolyn Webb in Zalla

We'll be heading back to Sydney, Australia, in mid-November for our first home assignment. Please pray for a refreshing time seeing friends and family. As we talk at various churches about church-planting in Spain, pray that many would partner with us through prayer and that some might be prompted to consider coming to serve the Lord in Europe. While we're away pray that the project aimed at opening a Christian hostel in our town for pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago would progress well.

FRIDAY 16

SPAIN: Ron and Brenda Anderson in Madrid

Pray for the strategic meeting of La Plaza in the Spanish regions of Asturias and Cantabria tomorrow. Shane Sparks of Pioneer Mission and the Association of Pastors in the area are organizing a one-day consultation that will focus on taking the pulse of church planting in the region. Pray for unity and a desire to develop a collaborative vision for the area. Ron Anderson will be helping lead the event.

SATURDAY 17

NETHERLANDS: Roland Smith

On Sunday 18 I'm speaking at All Saints Anglican Church in Maastricht on Hannah's example of humble prayer from 1 Samuel. May God encourage us all to learn to pray courageously and expectantly and to pour out our souls to the Lord.

SUNDAY 18

ECM BRITAIN: Kent Anderson, British Director

Kent will be speaking twice today at Bromham Baptist Church in Bedford, England. The pastor of the church is a Trustee of ECM Britain and they have links with Terry and Christine Miller in Cordoba, Spain. Please pray for this and for the many similar church contacts that happen regularly around the world, asking that those listening will be inspired by God's word and be challenged to live in ways that will help transform their local communities. Pray also that they will be informed about what God is doing in Europe today. Also thank the Lord for the many churches that faithfully pray for and support ECM workers.

MONDAY 19

SPAIN: Edgar and Jane Alvarez in Collado Villalba

Pray for both Edgar's and Jane's fathers. Even though they keep general good health they both are having eye problems, cataracts to be exact. Edgar's dad has had surgery and Jane's dad should, but this may not be possible. Also pray for our local church in Madrid. We are undergoing a difficult transition period and need lots of wisdom and much dialogue.

TUESDAY 20

KOSOVO: Gani and Adile Smolica in Peja

We are full of praise for the good attendance in the last two months. People are coming to meetings despite opposition. Pray for three contacts we had with some old friends that we met recently. We had a good talk with them, and after being surprised that we "still continue to observe the different religion", two of them came to a church meeting and "liked" it. Pray for these two to continue coming and to get more interested in what we believe and preach.

WEDNESDAY 21

SPAIN: Cicero and Vera da Costa in Alcalá la Real

We are very thankful for our first year in Alcalá la Real and for the support of Abel and Rafi. We are continuing in our studies, learning the Spanish language and culture and are also now in the process of deciding about our future ministry plans for the coming year. We would really appreciate your prayers for discernment and wisdom for the next step forward.

THURSDAY 22

MALTA: Gina and Mark Borg

Pray that God lines up the issues around church leadership, vision and planning. Ask the Lord for extra measures of grace and humility for the Pastors and church workers to find the same page. Pray that KEB is strengthened and grows. Pray for God's sustenance as life takes on a busier rhythm and we commit our time to different ministries and activities, especially, music and discipleship. Please pray for energy and diligence in language learning in this season too.

FRIDAY 23

ECMI USA: George Brown, US Director

Pray for wisdom and provision required for the significant amount of preparation to represent ECMI at the Urbana missions conference December 27-31, 2018, in St. Louis, Missouri. 15,000 students are expected to attend. The current team consists of Chloe Wolfson, Jarrod and Amelia Keithley, Hans and Jennifer Anderson and George Brown.

SATURDAY 24

SPAIN: Jim and Christine Memory in Aguilar de la Frontera

After some years away, we are now living back in this small town, attending and supporting a small church in another town. This church had already started a regular men's breakfast meeting in Aguilar which Jim now attends when not travelling. Recently we have also started a ladies' afternoon bible study every 2 weeks which Christine goes to taking along her friend, Elena, who recently lost her husband. Pray for interested folk to attend these meetings.

SUNDAY 25

ECM AUSTRALIA: Matt and Louise George in Sydney

Calvin, our son adopted from Bulgaria, still has significant trauma issues due to neglect in the State-run Institution from where he came. Pray for healing of his mind, body and spirit.

MONDAY 26

ECMI USA: George Brown, US Director

Please pray for the Lord to open the hearts of donors as they consider their year-end giving plans. Pray too for the US Board as they continue to search for the next Director to take George's place in May 2019.

TUESDAY 27**SPAIN: Edgar and Jane Alvarez in Collado Villalba**

Please pray for Gabriel as he starts to prepare his GCSC exams, especially as he recently suffered a fracture in his left foot. We are thankful he's OK otherwise. Also pray for Jane's friendship with colleagues at school, pray for R, M K and R and for opportunities to share Jesus with them.

WEDNESDAY 28**Church Planting Consultant: Ron Anderson**

Pray for the Lausanne Movement church planting consultation (Nov. 27-29) in Tanzania that Ron and Brenda will be leading. We expect to have delegations from Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania and a few other countries to be represented. Pray for unity, and a desire to develop a collaborative vision for church planting for the area. Pray specifically for safe travel, and our health as we venture into new areas of the world we have not been to before!

THURSDAY 29**ECM International: Strategic Priorities**

Please pray for the ECM Leaders' Meetings from 29 November – 3 December. Some 40 leaders and potential leaders will meet at the DMG centre in Germany to discuss initiatives vital to achieving our strategic priorities. There will be other important mobilisation and ministry issues to discuss. We will also be looking at what it means to be a leader, as we discuss leadership and spirituality, developing younger leaders and leadership effectiveness.

FRIDAY 30**KOSOVO: Gani and Adile Smolica in Peja**

Pray for us as we plan to take a three months furlough just after New Year. We have not had a proper time of rest and refuelling for 9 years now.