

South Central Africa

Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe

'Mbulaleni is very disabled due to leprosy. His hands are clawed and he has an inverted left foot which means he walks with great difficulty. But, according to a TLM Field Worker in South Africa, he is a man who has fully accepted his disabilities – he has no room for self-pity. He is full of zest for life.'



Members of ALEMO, Mozambique

Promotional Work

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own understanding,' Proverbs 3:5



Some of the supporters who ran the London 10K to raise money for TLM in 2008

October Week 43

FACTFILE
DURING THE '90S THE CHURCH IN MOZAMBIQUE GREW FASTER THAN IN ANY OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRY; THE NUMBER OF CHRISTIANS DOUBLED OVER 12 YEARS

Monday 19

Angola: The leprosy patient association **ARPAL** is growing steadily; it meets weekly to encourage people affected by leprosy. Pray for Natalia Marçal, the president of ARPAL, and for the socio-economic development project that started this year, which TLM is supporting.

Tuesday 20

Botswana: TLM's focus here is to ensure that existing leprosy patients get the right treatment and that those with disabilities receive good care. Pray for TLM-supported **Thuso Rehabilitation Centre** as it provides services for those who have leprosy-related disabilities.

Wednesday 21

Mozambique: TLM's **Iphiro Yohoolo** project aims to motivate leprosy-affected and orphaned children to continue their schooling by providing them with school materials and uniforms. Currently, 145 children are benefiting from the project.

Pray that they will do well in their studies.

Thursday 22

South Africa: TLM staff face a tough challenge in keeping leprosy on the agenda of the health departments because of the massive issues in the country relating to HIV/Aids, malaria and TB. Pray that co-operation agreements will be renewed promptly with the health departments of each of the nine provinces.

Friday 23

Lesotho: Although there is a low incidence of leprosy here, there may be some hidden cases as this is a mountainous country, and not everyone has easy access to health centres. Pray for TLM's one remaining 'leprosy scout' whose task is to find these cases and ensure people get treatment.

Saturday 24 / Sunday 25

Mozambique: In the past five years more than 4,000 cases of leprosy have been detected in the **Cabo Delgado** province where TLM works. Mobilising these often very poor patients into self-help groups will enable them to improve their economic status. Pray for leaders of the self-help groups to be identified easily.

Oct-Nov Week 44

FACTFILE

TLM ENGLAND AND WALES RAISED FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF 18 HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY, DISABLED AND LEPROSY-AFFECTED PEOPLE AT BAPUJI LEPROSY COLONY IN INDIA.

Monday 26

TLM Australia seeks God's wisdom in developing new ways to motivate churches to participate in TLM's holistic ministry. Pray for a successful Christmas Appeal in November and World Leprosy Day church promotion in December. Uphold their Nepal Trek for Treatment in November – praying for safety and an inspirational event.

Tuesday 27

TLM England and Wales: Pray for preparations for World Leprosy Day in January, that it will be a huge success and raise awareness with many schools, churches and individuals. Pray too for inspiration for the TLM E&W team in finding new ways to reach people and inspire them to support leprosy needs.

Wednesday 28

TLM Germany: A Rotary Club raised funds for TLM's projects in DR Congo, where Angelika Piefer from Germany works. The Council ask us to pray for TLM's staff in DR Congo and for the Congolese people still suffering under the ongoing violence: for peace and safety, and improved living conditions for the poor.

Thursday 29

TLM Canada asks us to pray that they would find qualified, Christian staff to maximise their efforts in Canada. And that they would find effective ways to reach more Canadian churches and inspire them to work alongside TLM Canada in meeting the needs of leprosy-affected people.

Friday 30

TLM Trading: Uphold them in this busy time processing orders from their Autumn/Winter catalogue – pray it will be their best year ever for sales. Pray too for success with search-engine marketing; a cost-effective way of using the internet to find new customers.

November

Saturday 31 / Sunday 1

TLM Denmark seeks funding from Danida, the Danish Government Funding Agency, to support programmes in Bangladesh. Pray for a good outcome and an ongoing relationship between TLM Denmark and Danida, for the benefit of leprosy patients, their families and communities.

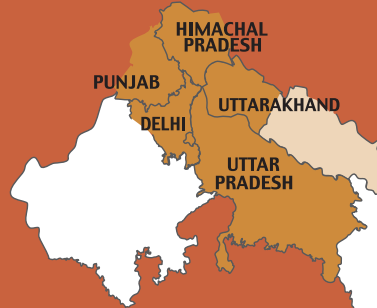


TLM South Central Africa Co-ordinator Ockie Kruger handing out Bibles in Botswana

North West India

Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh

'This disease has changed my life and fate for good. I always wanted to be a tailor and only after being affected by leprosy I got the chance to come to Faizabad Vocational Training Centre,' Mr Neeraj, former VTC student



November Week 45

FACTFILE
OVER 14,000 PEOPLE ARE BENEFITING FROM MICRO-CREDIT LOANS GIVEN BY TLM



An Occupational Therapist with a patient at TLM's Shahadra Hospital



Learning to fix bikes at Bankura VTC

Monday 2

Artisans: MESH (Maximising Employment to Serve the Handicapped) improves the livelihoods of people affected by leprosy and disability by marketing their hand-made products. Pray for the Fair Wages project as it seeks to ensure the workers get paid fairly.

Tuesday 3

Changes: Volunteers living in the communities where TLM's **Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP)** works, have been trained on issues such as gender and disability. Pray that the volunteers will be bold and will ensure these issues are considered in the development of their communities.

Wednesday 4

Service: Give thanks for the residents at TLM's elderly care home (Snehalaya) based at **Naini Hospital** – they are willing to help out the Mission by being ward attendants and helpers. Pray also for the continued success of new services that Naini has been providing this year –

laparoscopy and ultrasound – and for those who will benefit.

Thursday 5

Elderly: Almora Home and Hospital in Uttarakhand has 45 elderly residents. Thank God for the improvements that are being made to the Home to make it easier for residents to get around. Stigma towards leprosy is very high in this region so many people are reluctant to seek help. Pray that more people will be diagnosed earlier.

Friday 6

Income: The Rehabilitation Projects for Leprosy Patients and their Dependents in Uttar Pradesh, a partner of TLM, provides vocational training and basic education to leprosy-cured patients. Pray for the project as it begins to provide primary education to children and helping those with disabilities to earn an income.

Saturday 7 / Sunday 8

Education: CARWE Children's Home in Jeethgarh, Dehra Dun caters for 60 children of leprosy-affected or destitute parents, providing them with a good education. Praise God that 90 per cent of the children have passed their exams. Pray that the financial needs of the home will be met.

Myanmar/Burma and Thailand and Pacific

'The Bogale Rehabilitation Centre in Myanmar was opened after Cyclone Nargis hit in May 2008. A team of five staff and three volunteers travel by foot, motorcycle, car and boat to carry out awareness raising activities, needs assessment and rehabilitation for people with disabilities and their communities'



November Week 46



A new house for a family affected by Cyclone Nargis

FACTFILE
OVER TWO MILLION PEOPLE WORK IN THE SEX INDUSTRY IN BANGKOK



Pathein Rehab Centre, Myanmar

Monday 9

Development: Pray for the patients at the **Christian Leprosy Hospital**, Mawlamyine, Myanmar. As the hospital develops a new five-year plan, ask that the Board will have wisdom to lead the hospital into the next phase of development. Pray for Dr Maureen (Superintendent) and Saw Zaw Gyi (Administrator).

Tuesday 10

Co-operation: TLM is seeking to address specific leprosy needs in the Pacific that are not being covered by other agencies. Pray for willingness from the government, WHO, ALM and TLM to work together on strategic issues. Pray that new relationships will be built on firm foundations.

Wednesday 11

Service: U Khin Maung Win is the Project Manager of the

Mawlamyine Disability

Resource Centre in Myanmar. The centre helps people learn how to look after family members with disabilities. Bring the eight staff members to the Lord in prayer and ask that he will bless their work.

Thursday 12

Resources: Yangon and Hmawbi Disability Resource Centres in Myanmar are trained to be at the forefront of training on incorporating disability-affected people into mainstream society, with many new courses available to NGOs, people with disabilities and other local organisations. Ask that trainees will integrate their learning into their work. Pray for Daw Hnin Phyu Kaung (Technical Support Unit Manager) as she helps co-ordinate training.

Friday 13

Programmes: The Mawlamyine Community Transformation Project is in the final year of its current project cycle. Pray that the staff will learn from the challenges they faced, and have wisdom for the future. Pray for the long-term land and housing loan programmes. Pray for Naw Say Pree Taw as she supervises the project.

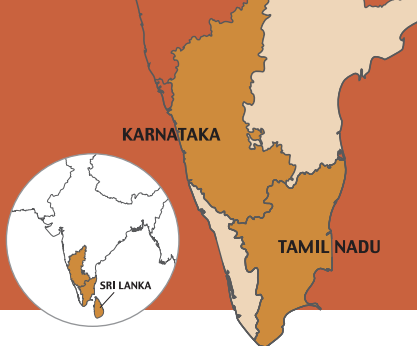
Saturday 14 / Sunday 15

Political: Pray for the political situation in Thailand. Give thanks for the life-changing work that is being done by **McKean Rehabilitation Centre**. Pray that the government will be sympathetic and supportive of the work being carried out there, especially their care of the elderly.

South India

Karnataka, Tamil Nadu

'I am grateful to ETCK [Empowering Tribal Communities of Karwar] and staff because although they didn't know me, they still cared about me. They helped me to live in the community with dignity and confidence.' Mr Siddi's life has been transformed through the ETCK project



Promotional Work

'Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope. Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning,' Lamentations 3:21-22



Sharing a meal: a group from New Zealand and staff in Nepal

November Week 47

FACTFILE
THE LITERACY RATE IN INDIA IS 61%



This man's family received a low-cost house in Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu



A CBR worker (left) with a man and his new low-cost house, Pondicherry

Monday 16

Trust: The project **Empowering Tribal Communities** of Karwar alleviates physical poverty and restores dignity to people in the area. Give thanks that staff are able to help the tribal groups who trust few outside agencies.

This project is widening opportunities to address social, economic and health issues.

Tuesday 17

Protection: The project **Choice, Dignity and Integration for Devadasis and Socially Excluded people** has been created to rehabilitate

2,800 Devadasis (temple prostitutes). As part of a religious ritual, women/girls are 'wedded' to a deity without their consent. Pray for their education and futures as the project strives to integrate them back into society.

Wednesday 18

Government: The **Integrated Disability Care and CBR** project in Viluppuram helps people to overcome their disabilities. Pray for fruitful relationships with the government departments and NGOs and ask that they would co-operate well together. Pray for

guidance as they seek approval from the government to access resources.

Thursday 19

Stigma: Praise God for the increase in the number of general out-patients at **TLM Hospital, Belgaum**. It is a positive sign that stigma towards leprosy is decreasing. Lift up to God the vision of the Mission; that it will be fulfilled in this hospital.

Friday 20

Staff: The **TLM Hospital, Dayapuram**, is seeking to become a community hospital with general medical services, without compromising medical care for leprosy patients. Pray for newly-diagnosed leprosy patients, and for dermatology and diabetic patients. Pray that God will bless the work of new staff.

Saturday 21 / Sunday 22

Schools: Based in Chennai, the **Schools Targeting Stigma Programme** seeks to reduce the stigma attached to leprosy, TB and HIV/Aids through education. Praise God for the support of local government for this project. Ask for God's protection over staff as they travel across India, communicating to diverse groups in culturally relevant ways.

November Week 48

FACTFILE
TLM NORTHERN IRELAND'S YOUTH TEAM VISITED FAIZABAD IN AUGUST '08 AND TWO TEAMS RETURNED TO TANZANIA IN OCTOBER '08 TO BUILD MORE HOUSES, AND RAISE INTEREST, PRAYER AND MONEY

Monday 23

TLM Netherlands: Uphold them as they seek to build ongoing support from the Dutch Government for TLM's leprosy work overseas. Pray for good relationships to be developed; and also for good opportunities for co-operation with other Christian organisations. In this way the needs of people with leprosy and other disabilities receives wider attention and more can be done.

Tuesday 24

TLM Ireland asks for prayer that they will build strong church relationships and that new relationships with a wider range of denominations may harness the support their work needs. Pray too that as they advocate for leprosy issues in a wider arena, they are seen as a credible development agency and will build strategic partnerships.

Wednesday 25

TLM Switzerland: Uphold staff and Board members as they make plans for the coming year. Pray for an excellent response to their calendar and Christmas mailings to supporters, and for new opportunities with local press and TV to share the needs of people still suffering from leprosy.

Thursday 26

TLM Scotland: Pray for their preparations for World Leprosy Day 2010, and for all fundraising appeals and activities at this busy time. May God open doors for them to share with churches, schools, youth and women's groups about the difference their support can make for people affected by leprosy.

Friday 27

TLM New Zealand: Uphold them as they continue to implement their 2009-2012 Strategic Plan for growth and set a challenging and clear focus for their work. Pray for the whole team as they seek to raise awareness about leprosy and the work of TLM among the general public – for energy, creativity and inspiration.

Saturday 28 / Sunday 29

TLM Northern Ireland: Ask God's blessing on their Christmas Fair and on their plans for World Leprosy Day outreach early next year. Pray especially for more church partners to link with them in areas of Northern Ireland where so far there is little support for leprosy work.

Research

Research into the causes and consequences of leprosy is a crucial part of TLM's work: the more we know about the disease, the more success we will have in eradicating it for good



Abdul, in Bangladesh, receiving a course of Multi-Drug Therapy

Thursday 3

Prevention: Pray today for those considering how to implement new research findings. May the care and support given to individuals with leprosy be improved as a result of our research into how to prevent leprosy spreading, prevent disability from occurring and worsening and to prevent and reduce stigma.

Friday 4

Staff: Pray today for all TLM staff who co-ordinate and support research, for the resources, the support and the motivation they need. May they receive grace to understand and complement each other and to faithfully reflect the image of God to TLM staff and other professionals.

Saturday 5 / Sunday 6

Planning: Uphold TLM's Director of Research Dr Paul Saunderson as he plans and directs TLM's future leprosy priorities. Pray too for TLM research labs – Anandaban Hospital Lab, Nepal, and Stanley Browne Lab, India. Pray for worthwhile collaborations, and for clarity in writing new grant proposals so that vital research into leprosy can continue.

Overcoming Stigma

'I am scared to go back to my own village because I don't know if they will have me back,' Mohanta, a student at TLM's Vocational Training Centre in Vizianagaram, India



December Week 50

Monday 7

Goal: One of TLM's objectives for the next five years is to make a measurable reduction in social exclusion and discrimination against leprosy-affected people. Pray for TLM Country Leaders and project staff as this goal is pursued – pray that it will be achieved.

Tuesday 8

India: In 2008 a resolution to end discrimination towards leprosy-affected people was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council. The government of India has signed the resolution but there are still some areas where stigma is high – pray that the government will be able to influence State legislation so that any ongoing discriminatory practices will cease.

Wednesday 9

China: Here, stigma towards leprosy-affected people is still high and many families continue to live in colonies, segregated from ordinary towns and villages. Pray for an end to the long-held view that leprosy is highly contagious and ask that there will be more awareness campaigns conducted.

Thursday 10

Nepal: People affected by leprosy here may experience rejection by their family or community. TLM in Nepal is helping to reduce stigma through educating family members and villages with the facts about leprosy. Pray for the continued success of this work.

Friday 11

Advocacy: One of TLM's long-term goals is to support leprosy-affected people to speak out for themselves; this will help them gain an active role in society including finding a job and improving their social status. Pray that individuals with leprosy will have the confidence to make a stand for their rights.

Saturday 12 / Sunday 13

Partners: IDEA is an international network of people that seeks to end the social isolation that is often associated with leprosy. Pray for IDEA's President for International Relations DR P K Gopal; ask that God will use him and this organisation to establish greater worldwide acceptance of people with leprosy.

Nov-Dec Week 49

Monday 30

Looking ahead: The International Research Committee, chaired by Prof Warwick Britton, and TLM senior staff are working towards a new approach to research. Pray for excellent relationships with researchers in the field. Pray for a good balance in the research being done, from laboratory science to social science research, including studies in reducing stigma.

December

Tuesday 1

Leprosy Vaccine: TLM contributes towards the ALM Leprosy Vaccine project; an initiative to develop better tools to diagnose leprosy at an early stage of infection, and to find a cost-effective vaccine which can be easily distributed and administered. Pray for ongoing success.

Wednesday 2

Positive results: Give thanks for the success of a number of research studies in TLM centres, including COLEP (a trial of preventative drugs which aims to protect close contacts of leprosy patients) carried out in Nilphamari, Bangladesh, and INFIR (a study of early nerve damage in leprosy) carried out in several centres in India.



A laboratory technician at Barabanki Hospital, India



FACTFILE

'DISCRIMINATION IS A PERSONAL AND SOCIAL PAIN. WE WANT TO HELP TO CURE THIS PAIN,' IDEA MOZAMBIQUE DECLARATION