

## December 2011

***"All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before Him." Psalm 22v27***

### Thursday 1 December

Remember today in prayer the three sons of the late **Dr Saw Htoo**. Dr Saw was a former long-serving Superintendent of the Mawlamyine Leprosy Hospital in Myanmar. Both Dr Saw, his wife and mother-in-law all passed away within a short space of time of each other. Please uphold the family in prayer and may our Lord's peace be with them during this time of grief.

### Friday 2 December

Last month an 18 year old young woman arrived at the **Anandaban Clinic (Nepal)**, wrapped in a shawl, weak and trembling with fever. All her skin was flaking off - everywhere. She had a severe allergic reaction to the leprosy medications she'd started a couple of months ago. This is a rare condition but does happen more frequently in Nepalese people and can quickly become fatal. Pray for her complete recovery and others like her who receive allergic reactions to the medication.

### Saturday 3 / Sunday 4 December

The 3<sup>rd</sup> is **Disabled Persons International Day**. Pray for events all over the world organised in recognition of this day. It is estimated that over 15% of the world's global population have disabilities with approximately two thirds living in developing countries. Remember the disabled living in flood affected areas in Thailand

who because of their disability are unable to reach higher ground.

### Monday 5 December

Pray for a full speedy recovery back to health for **Mr Shovakhar Kandel**, Executive Director of Leprosy Mission Nepal. Leprosy Mission Nepal runs the Anandaban Hospital. Pray for wisdom for staff who, in the meantime, are filling in for Mr Kandel.

### Tuesday 6 December

To increase effectiveness in our work, from time to time, workshops are held to build stronger working relationships and to provide learning. This week **Matt Halsey** (Programmes Manager) will be in **Bangkok** for such a meeting with colleagues from Bangladesh, Timor L'este, Papua New Guinea, Myanmar, Australia and China. Pray for a fruitful time for all as they learn and for a spirit of oneness as colleagues from different cultural backgrounds work on impacting lives and communities affected by leprosy.

### Wednesday 7 December

Radio communication is an excellent media to reach new supporters. Pray for wide audience participation in **Radio Rhema's** 'pass the parcel' competition promoting our Really Good Gifts 4 Families at this time.

### Thursday 8 December

The **Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme** is designed to encourage a community-based and community-owned primary health system. Pray for **Ruby Mirinka**, Programmes Manager, and her team as they undertake training two new District Facilitators from Buin District. The new District Facilitators will be responsible for implementing BHCP activities as it expands into Buin District in 2012. Buin is 90 kms south of Arawa a challenging drive of 3 hours through numerous rivers as there are no bridges.

### Friday 9 December

As **Matt Halsey** (Programmes Manager) prepares to return to Auckland, pray for safety in travel and good health.

Pray also for a quick recovery from travel weariness as his body clock adjusts to the time change.

### Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 December

The 10<sup>th</sup> is **Human Rights Day**. *"Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy."* **Proverbs 31v9** Celebrate Human Rights Day in your local communities, today and in the future, by advocating non-discrimination, raising awareness and embracing diversity. Pray that when faced with prejudice and discrimination political leaders, governments and ordinary citizens will not be silent or complacent.

### Monday 12 December

Praise God for all the wonderful gifts God has given to us. Praise also for all the gifts supporters have purchased from our Really Good Gifts 4 Families catalogue. Every gift has been carefully selected to meet the needs of individuals and families affected by leprosy. Pray that more supporters will take up the chance to use our gift catalogue as they think about gift buying this Christmas.

### Tuesday 13 December

Pray for the Marketing Team today (**Bruce Waldin**, **Tracey Adamson** and **Heather Warne**) as they explore new ways to engage New Zealanders through media, mailings and meetings. *"Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."* **Zechariah 4v6**

### Wednesday 14 December

Pray for a great response from **Newstalk ZB** listeners as over the next few nights **Pat Brittenden** promotes LMNZ's Really Good Gifts 4 Families focusing on the 'Cure One Person' gift. Over the last few years Pat has run similar radio appeals for leprosy-affected people with good outcomes.

### Thursday 15 December

The Leprosy Mission worldwide could not function as efficiently if it were not for its wonderful volunteers. Today the Auckland Office staff are providing a thank you Christmas lunch for some of its valued Auckland volunteers. Praise God for all our tremendous helpers throughout NZ who work behind the scenes fundraising,

speaking up for leprosy-affected people at various organisations and functions, running our moneybox collections, helping with mail outs and providing LM with used stamps and cutting/sorting them.

#### **Friday 16 December**

Praise God for the great interest shown in the work of LMNZ by a wide variety of applicants for the **Youth Advocate Scholarship**. Overall the applicants helped to fundraise over \$13,000. Pray for the successful Youth Advocates, **Jo Burnett** (Waimauku), **Carinnya Feanati** (New Plymouth), **Sam Illing** (Hamilton), **Nathanael Lucas** (Wellington), **Miriam Whitton** (Hastings) and **Stefan van Woerden** (Hamilton) as they prepare for the Nepal trip next year. This group of enthusiastic medical, engineering and architectural students all have a heart for those living in poverty and are eager to be advocates once they are back in New Zealand for leprosy-affected communities.

#### **Saturday 17 / Sunday 18 December**

Population numbers in the Republic of the **Marshall Islands** and the Federated States of **Micronesia** are not huge but the prevalence of leprosy is very high. Pray for wisdom and good judgement for **Caroline Johnny**, Leprosy Supervisor, **Dr Tom Jack**, National Program Manager and **Mareta Hauma** who are all working on TB and Leprosy in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Also prayer for **Dr Mayleen Ekiek**, Health Services Specialist in the Federated States of Micronesia. The indicators show that the number of people found to have leprosy in these islands is increasing, staff are overworked and they are working with limited budgets.

#### **Monday 19 December**

Pray for the ongoing success of New Zealand businesses that have faithfully supported, even during tough financial times, the Leprosy Mission and our work with leprosy-affected individuals and families.

#### **Tuesday 20 December**

Continue to remember the ongoing rebuild in **Christchurch**. Pray for stability for the city's

community, for oneness and strength as they move on.

#### **Wednesday 21 December**

To help address the leprosy situation in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia **Andrew Harding**, (Programmes Manager), **Jim Oehrig** (Chief Programmes Officer) American Leprosy Mission and **Dr Hugh Cross** (TLM Nepal Country Leader) are at the planning stages to develop a workable project. Initial preparations are crucial for successful implementation of any project especially one that will cover a wide area of people in isolated islands. Pray for wisdom and God's guidance as they manage this.

#### **Thursday 22 December**

Today the Auckland Office closes for the year. Pray that all **Board members** and **staff** will be kept safe and well over the holiday season and will return refreshed, renewed and inspired to take up the many challenges the New Year could present.

#### **Friday 23 December**

As a guide for future work in **Papua New Guinea** **Miriam Pahun** (Head of Papua New Guinea Government Leprosy programme) is working alongside **Dr Art Cunanan** WHO (World Health Organisation) Leprosy Consultant developing a new plan for PNG leprosy control. Pray that this plan will adequately identify the needs and will result in a workable program.

#### **Saturday 24 / Sunday 25 December**

*"For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing." II Corinthians 2v15* As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, we also remember that we are to be like Him and that His birth is our new birth also. Pray that Leprosy Mission staff will show Jesus Christ in their daily walk as they work alongside lives affected by leprosy. That through their witness lives will be transformed through the love of Jesus as they find peace and security in the knowledge of Jesus as their Saviour.

#### **Monday 26 December**

Give thanks to God for all the **cross-cultural workers** who are willing to leave friends and family to live and work in sometimes challenging circumstances – thank God for their commitment to The Leprosy Mission.

#### **Tuesday 27 December**

Remember today **Geoff** and **Karen Warne** as they reunite with family in New Zealand and holiday here. Pray they will have a restful time and be kept safe. Ask that God will equip **Geoff** (TLMI General Director) with all that he needs to lead TLM in the New Year.

#### **Wednesday 28 December**

Pray for God's guidance for **Dr Yousif Deng**, TLM Country Leader and **Dr Wilson Lado Santo**, Programme Manager, as they explore the possibilities of where and how to work with leprosy-affected people in the new Republic of **South Sudan**.

#### **Thursday 29 December**

Pray for wisdom for all **ENAPAL** Board Members, especially **Menberu Adane** (Director) and **Leulseged Berhane** (Chairman) as they implement their five year strategic plan. Pray that there will be oneness and everyone will have the same understanding of ENAPAL's vision, goals and objectives. Pray for God's leading in all they do.

#### **Friday 30 December**

Pray for **Bunmi Oluloto**, TLM **Niger** Country Leader as together with his staff they endeavour to raise awareness, provide accessible services and improve the standards of living for leprosy-affected people in Niger.

#### **Saturday 31 December**

As we stand ready to enter into a new year, give thanks and take time to reflect on the amazing providence of God this past year. Praise Him for His grace, His faithfulness and His constancy through times of difficulty and hardship and for His mercies that continue to be *'new every morning.'* (Lamentations 3v22-24)