

Northeastern District ALLIANCEWOMEN

District Newsletter, February 2020

Trust Him in the Storm

By Terri Groh, District Director

These have been a few weeks full of disappointments and anxiety. Spring Refresh had to be canceled, many of you are now quarantined at home, church services are now being live-streamed, groceries and paper goods are scarce. I have moments of want to just put my head down and cry.

However, I try not to do that....much. Why? Because God is bigger than all our fears. He is larger than this pandemic. He is stronger than our anxieties. He is control and He is still on His throne.

So what is one to do in a situation like this where you are fearful about finances, concerned about supplies, worried about sickness, and ready to tear your hair out if you have to stay in your house one more day with your family? Trust.

Psalm 56:3-4 ~ When I am afraid, I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

Psalm 56:10-11 ~ In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mere humans do to me?

Psalm 62:1-2 ~ I am at rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I will never be shaken.

Psalm 62:5-8 ~ Rest in God alone, my soul, for my hope comes from
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SET FREE

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him. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I will not be shaken. My salvation and glory depend on God, my strong rock. My refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts before him. God is our refuge.

Use this time at home to spend time in His word. Spend time in prayer and meditation. Spend time with your family. Watch church online. Participate in some of the online Bible studies. Listen to worship music.

God knows your needs and He will watch over you. Trust and His peace will wash over you. He will see us through this storm. And when we meet again face to face, what a day of rejoicing that will be!

Pray for our International Workers

P & C:

- We thank God for making a way for us to get to the USA safely at short notice (on the last flight out of the country) due to my high-risk pregnancy and COVID19. Baby is not due until July 8th but I've had a premature baby in the past.
- We are planning our speaking schedule. Please pray for guidance.
- Please pray for our host country as the spread of the virus will probably be very bad. Most households do not have running water or soap to use frequently. They eat out of communal bowls with their hands. People get their food daily at crowded open-air markets as they do not have refrigerators, making social distancing impossible. They live in large family units. The medical care is very under-sourced. Fortunately most homes are open to outside air. Pray this virus spares the country. There are just a few confirmed cases currently. Pray for our medical staff as they prepare the hospital for COVID while treating other illnesses and injuries.
- Please pray for a patient "Jen" who is a young girl that was put on comfort care for a recurrence of abdominal cancer. She and her family have heard the gospel. Pray they will believe.
- Pray for success of a group of 8 nurses learning how to care for adult GYN cancer patients.

Zoggs:

We were able to get Rachel back here from college before they closed the borders. We still have food here but the people here work day to day and we are on lockdown for at least 2 weeks. People in the poor neighborhoods are already starting to feel the lack of food due to no work.

- Please pray people in here have food and we don't have civil unrest here.
- Pray for us financially through this, and that this situation will cause people to want to use the resources God has given them for Kingdom work.

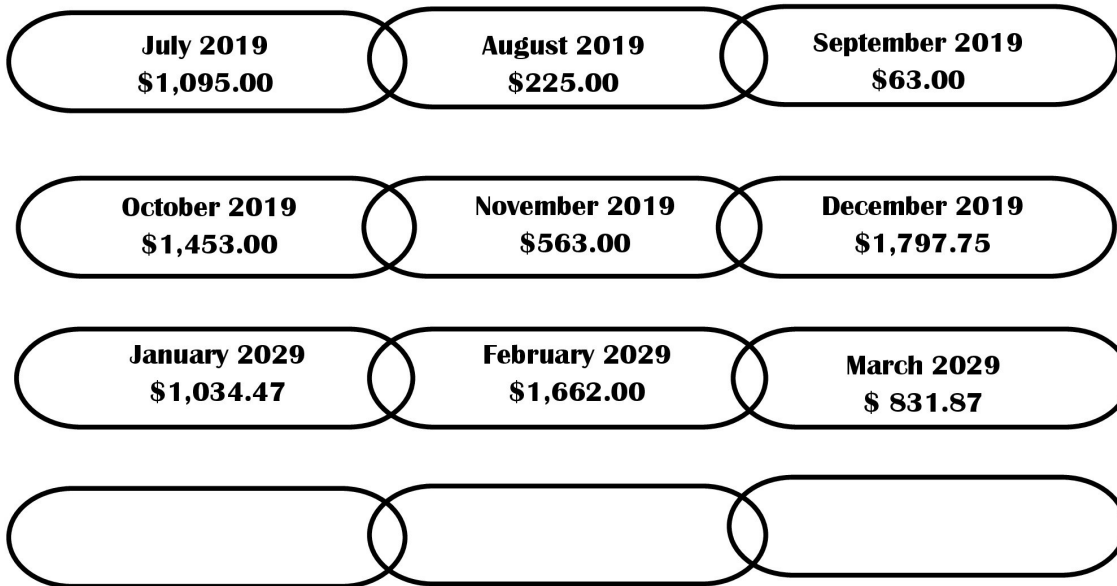
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National Goal—\$250,000
Northeastern District Goal—\$16,000

Year-to-date Amount— \$8,725.29

Help break their chains so they can be SET FREE!



2019-2020 National Project

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Roma people and women coming out of prison to be set free from heroin addiction

Cambodia

Help and a home for those seeking to be set free from drug and alcohol addiction

Paraguay

Reaching youth through camp ministry to be set free to follow Jesus

Uruguay

Encounter retreats for well-educated women in a spiritually-resistant culture to be set free from emptiness

Pray for our International Workers (Continued from page 2)

Mark & Kathy Eikost:

- Our main prayer request for our team is for people/events that are scheduled to travel/take place over the next weeks and months. We have conferences and short term ministry teams with plans in limbo due to travel bans. Some events have already been cancelled. We are asking the Lord for wisdom to know when/if to cancel future events/plans. We are also praying for wisdom in when to re-schedule those events/ministry teams.
- The level of virus infection in Bosnia-Herzegovina is relatively low and the government has initiated strict guidelines for public interaction or travel. People are doing a pretty good job respecting these guidelines for now. Unfortunately, this whole stressful situation and subsequent rationing of food has triggered some people with PTSD from the civil war which happened in the 1990s. Please pray for comfort and peace for those who are suffering. Pray for wisdom and boldness for the church as we minister to those around us who need help.

Stewart Stemple:

I am moving to a new city and a new job. I have left Dubai and will be starting a new job in 2 weeks in Hong Kong. I will be the global Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) for an international company called Li & Fung. I have made it to Hong Kong now (just before all the airlines shut down) and I am in a 14-day quarantine in a hotel room. I am not allowed to leave the room until April 5th. After that, though, I will begin my new life in Hong Kong.

- I am so thankful for the prayers of the AW for me while in Dubai...I will continue to update on life in Hong Kong. Please pray for a smooth transition during these strange times. I will have to have my things packed up in Dubai by a moving company working virtually on the phone to explain to them what is mine. I didn't really get closure on a lot of things in Dubai, and hope that I can return in a few months and say "goodbyes" and have some closure there.
- My new role in Hong Kong will be very influential and very challenging at the beginning. As the head of HR for the company, which has about 25,000 employees, I will be helping people deal with safety and security, deal with change and transition, and more. It will not be easy, but I know God has put me in that role for a very important reason.

Renee Valach:

Here in Gabon, the borders are closed. I was supposed to be on Home Assignment from July through October, but that is looking more and more unlikely. There are no gatherings of more than 10 people, so our team can no longer meet together. There is an overnight curfew.

There are currently 6 known cases of Covid 19 in the country, but we suspect more. As the Medical Director, I'm the point person for the response at Bongolo. We had our first suspected case yesterday. I called the number that is supposed to bring people with the test kit and personal protective equipment. I spoke to people from the Military Hospital, the Regional Health Director and eventually the Minister of Health for the Country, but no one came.

Here are some prayer requests:

- Pray that we stay healthy. I've personally had two previous medical evacuations. Right now the borders are closed, and there are no flights in or out of the country. No evacuation is possible for any of us. ICU and ventilator therapy is not possible in the jungle.
- Pray for protection for the hospital staff.
- Pray that when we really need them, people will come with the test kit and the protective equipment.
- Pray for the health system here. The health system in general is over stretched. We are the only hospital in the south central and southwestern provinces of the country who can do a c-section. We are the regional trauma center. If we put our resources into an epidemic, other patients will die.
- Pray for wisdom for me, the other doctors on the medical staff, and the hospital as we make decisions.
- Pray for the local church in Gabon which can't go to online meeting or giving.

Thank you for praying for our International Workers!