

7 Mambabu, Kailahun District, Sierra Leone

<http://www.thepatrioticvanguard.com/kailahun-district-takes-the-lead-in-reducing-maternal-and-child-mortality>

We thank God for Mambabu's life-changing work amongst the village people of Gbangbama, Bendekor and Gbandoma and for the care and dedication of the project's volunteers and the generosity of its supporters.

Let us pray for those in the villages who, in the daily struggle to eke out a living, find their strength failing; for the housebound, those suffering without medical care and those having to cope with disability unaided. We give thanks to God for His healing love and pray for those who provide comfort and companionship to the weak and who show compassion to those in distress.

Let us pray too for the village children and young people, that they may be able to make the most of their education, despite the obstacles of everyday life. For children without close family, we pray for love, care and encouragement; and for young people studying away from home, we pray that they will find friendship, support and guidance wherever they are and the space to pursue their studies freely.

Father, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

8 ACE Youth Trust

<http://www.aceyouth.org.uk/?LMCL=qub2dB>

ACE continues to support a large number of vulnerable young people, and is as busy as ever. ACE provides many types of support for young people, in particular groups, and also on a one-to-one basis.

The regular groups include two youth clubs to which particular young people may be referred. These clubs provide a safe space where young people can have fun, and also learn and develop in a number of different ways.

There is a club for young people who potentially may struggle with the transition to senior school. There are also separate boys and girls clubs for those who are struggling in school in a number of different ways. The young people are taken out of school in small groups for a range of activities to help them address their particular needs.

A club is provided to help young people with their homework, and particularly where they may not have appropriate conditions or facilities at home.

ACE greatly values the prayer support it receives, along with financial, volunteering and in-kind assistance.

Mission Matters for Prayer

"I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer" Ps. 17.

Please continue to pray for issues in past editions as God leads you. Please also use the Methodist Prayer Handbook. Thanks to those who contributed items. You may also find the Spirit prompts you to pray for a partner in a way not mentioned here, do so! Numbers help select an item to pray for, eg pray for "3" on 3rd, 13th, 23rd of the month. See AMC websites for further information. For paper copies see Mission board in AMC vestibule.

1 Methodist Homes (MHA)

www.mha.org.uk/about-mha/chaplaincy-and-spirituality/

see also Heart and Soul Magazine.

1. Prayers for MHA Sunday, 12th June for the Connection, but in our Circuit 10th July when we have Rebecca Byass preaching with Rev Tim assisting.
2. The ongoing success of "Robotic Pets" in all MHA Care Homes. It has proved a big hit, especially with those with dementia, the "pets" respond like real animals and brings calm to those that have them and is an aid helping with their past memories.
3. Prayers for MHA Home, "Richmond" in Bexhill, as there is a consultation going on about its closure, due to the lack of people coming into the home, and the availability of staff in the area. If it goes through, residents will move to "Lauriston" near St Leonards. The consultation is in its early stages of the process. It was hoped to be able to convert "Richmond" into a retirement village, but has been proved not viable. If it closes it will be sold and the proceeds reinvested into MHA Care.
4. thanks to the Ashbourne Circuit for their generous giving once again in 2021 / 2022, for MHA Care.

2 Patna Partnership, N India

<http://www.northindia-derbyshirechurches-partnership.org.uk/patnavisit07.htm>

The Indian Government is not making things easy for the Christian Church in India. Financial transactions in particular are extremely difficult, you need special permission to receive donations from abroad.

Please pray for Bishop Francis and all the clergy in the Diocese and the work that they are doing.

Please also pray for St Luke's hospital, Hiranpur.

3 Open the Book

www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/

We give thanks for:-

- The warm welcome we received on our first visit to a new school added to our list.
- More teams working with schools in Argentina, Uganda, Portugal and Gambia.

We pray for:-

- Those attending Training sessions either on Zoom or in person.
- More presenters for our local teams.
- More teams worldwide to reach out to children and their families.
- All schools requesting Open the Book, that they may be visited.
- Bible stories being told that they will be remembered, and shared.
- All pupils, staff, governors and families connected to our local schools.

4 Phakamisa, S Africa

www.phakamisa.org/

Phakamisa is working successfully throughout this difficult time of COVID. Training in separate areas outside Pinetown is enabling teaching to continue with safety.

Beadwork and sewing groups continue and Gogos (grannies) sell their work, enabling them to make a living to feed and clothe their families.

Food is the main problem for the impoverished community. Financed by contributions from the Methodist Church the Wondering School children are fed with porridge every day while at school.

Security and vandalism excessive. John Wesley School in Pinetown help by providing safe parking of Phakamisa's vehicle.

The Phakamisa community give thanks for God's protection throughout this time. And are grateful that all the staff have kept their jobs.

5 Christian Aid

www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/prayer-diary.aspx

Christian Aid are based in countries affected by disasters so they can be there before, during and after an emergency to save lives and support people long term. Through working with local organisations in these countries, they can talk directly to the people affected to provide the most useful emergency response. The response is Fast, Community-led, Long term, Inclusive, Responsible and Builds skills. We pray with Christian Aid:-

- God, our refuge and strength, our help in times of trouble
- Have mercy on the lands where the earth has given way
- Have mercy on the lands where war is destroying lives
- Have mercy on the lands where the weather has destroyed livelihoods
- Prosper those who rebuild houses, and strengthen those who rebuild hope so that entire communities may face the future without fear

6 Jonathan and Isabel Hill, Zimbabwe

www.isabeljonathan.org/

taken from their email of November:

We are keeping fine and looking forward to what we hope will be a good rainy season. Already we are hearing of people being struck by lightning and buildings having their roofs blown off. Pray for help and comfort to those affected.

Pray for the government of Zimbabwe at all levels and for all in authority to carry out their duties without resorting to corrupt practices.

Praise God that schools reopened at the end of August and early September and we have been very busy trying to catch up and preparing students for their examinations. Online learning was attempted during the periods of lockdown, but many of our students didn't manage to benefit.

Isabel is back in the office too and making some trips to the circuits. Teenage pregnancies and youth drug abuse are some of the issues that she is helping to address. We pray that people will be vigilant and take necessary precautions to avoid a new wave of Covid infections. There will be many people coming home through the borders mostly from South Africa.

At Hillside Methodist Church attendance is much lower than it was pre-pandemic. Some elderly people and people who have not been vaccinated are hesitant to return. Since most of the children are not attending, many parents or grandparents have to stay at home too. I broadcast Sunday morning service on Facebook, but the internet connection is unreliable. I am still putting Sunday services on the circuit website, mostly in audio format.

9 The Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy

derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk

The Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy (DRC) is a Christian Ministry that celebrates the contribution of our agricultural and rural communities and the DRC team exists to provide visible and proactive spiritual and pastoral care, and to make an authentic Christian presence in the lives of those working in the land-based sector in Derbyshire. We are entirely ecumenical, drawing our chaplains from both the Anglican and Methodist churches, and from a variety of backgrounds. Visit our new website for more details.

After much thought and reflection the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy has decided to move our work from 'Rural Action Derbyshire' (RAD) into a charity called 'Chaplaincy Derbyshire'. Chaplaincy Derbyshire coordinates around 150 chaplains that support a broad range of sectors from police and fire chaplains to retail, education, and social care chaplains. The Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy feel that Chaplaincy Derbyshire will be a fitting home to help us remain focused on supporting the agricultural community now and into the future and we are looking forward to this new chapter.

David Legh, the Chair of the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy said: "This move is the right one for DRC. Re-locating our work into a new charity formed specifically to co-ordinate chaplaincy in many workplace sectors makes financial and managerial sense. We will keep our separate identity and will maintain close links with our friends at RAD." Please pray for:

- The DRC team as we seek to be a distinctive Christian presence in the lives of our agricultural community in Derbyshire.
- The transfer of the DRC into 'Chaplaincy Derbyshire'. This will be a new chapter for the DRC as we seek to be a Christian witness to the agricultural community.
- The farming community as they continue to navigate change and uncertainty.
- God's financial provision for the work of the DRC as our core funding finishes in 2023 and we plan for the future.
- Opportunities to connect with the agricultural community and discover the Kingdom of God together.

Richard Odell, World Mission Secretary, April 2022

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