

OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

- ▶ Congratulations to **Tomoyuki and Jessica Abe**, who are expecting their first child in late May. The Abes are serving as church planters in Fuchinobe, Japan.
- ▶ Many thanks to all who contributed Christmas stockings for **Joe Toy** to distribute to disadvantaged children. Over 1000 stockings were distributed at several locations, and a number of EC church members helped Joe to bring the Word and a gift to those who needed both.
- ▶ **BJ and Rachel Whitaker** will be taking a short furlough in spring. They will be in PA for March through May, staying in the Myerstown area. All their Sundays have already been filled, but there may be some weekdays/nights available. Contact the GMC office to get US address and check availability.
- ▶ **Ken Sears** was able to spend a few weeks with his family in TX over the holidays. It's always good to catch up with friends and family back home!
- ▶ Congratulations to **Yoriyoshi Abe**, a member of the Sagamiara EC Church of Japan, on his engagement to Emiko Furuya. Yoriyoshi is a student at Evangelical Seminary in Myerstown, training to be a church planter when he graduates and returns to Japan.
- ▶ **Jonathan and Kathy Wilson** welcomed their first grandchild – long distance- in early December. Tadhe (pronounced 'tige' as in tiger) Wilson, is the son of Justin and Kelsie Wilson, who are students at Moody Aviation School in Washington. Jonathan and Kathy were at home in Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea, but were able to follow the events thanks to modern technology.
- ▶ **Wanted** – lap top computers with Windows 95 or later editions (no Macs please), in working order. These will be hand carried to NE India for use at the College of Theology. We have someone who is willing to clean them up and load a newer version of Windows, then teach the faculty/students how to use them. Contact the GMC office if you updated your electronics recently and are willing to donate your old lap top.
- ▶ **The Spain Vision Tour** originally scheduled for this fall has definitely been postponed until next year. That gives more of you time to save up your pennies and join us! 😊



GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION
OF THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



FEBRUARY 2013

LAVISH LOVE

This is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. According to church tradition, there were several saints named Valentine in the early centuries A.D., and all of them were martyred.

The association of Valentine with lovers came about in the middle ages, and by the 1500's the idea of giving gifts of sweets and cards to one's beloved was well established. I'm sure the folks from those bygone eras would be amazed to see what a huge industry Valentine's Day has become in our time. Although mostly celebrated in western culture, the concept has traveled around the world.

Today Valentine's Day is usually associated with romantic love, although it also is a time to celebrate familial love and friendships. But human love is only a very small reflection of the love that God has poured out on His creation. I John 3:1a states "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" Webster defines *lavish* as 'marked by or produced with extravagance; luxurious.' God didn't count the cost when he made us, even while knowing it would cost him his own beloved son. He loves us extravagantly, outrageously. What a wonderful thought! As unlovely as we often are, God still loves us; not only that, he calls his own children.

As we think about love this month, let's remember the One who taught us what love is, and honor his command to love Him completely, as well as show His love to others by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Let's be as extravagant and lavish with our love for others as God has been in loving us.

"Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God... This is love; not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. I John 4:7a,10-11

–Pat Strain

FEBRUARY PRAYER CALENDAR INSIDE

EMPOWERING NATIONAL CHURCHES
• FACILITATING MISSIONS WORKERS • MINISTERING TO
THE MARGINALIZED • CREATING WORLD CHRISTIANS

EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



February 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
ANNIVERSARIES February 6 – Dan & Melinda Moury February 21 – Jim & Joan Farr March 8 – David & Conce Roof <small>* INDICATES RETIREE (c) INDICATES CANDIDATE + INDICATES MISSIONS ASSOCIATE</small>		HERE AND THERE – Randy Sizemore	←-----			
					PRAYER Day of prayer for the E.C. Church	Marcia Hopley – cross cultural ministry with IVCF
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
January 30 – February 9 – trip to Liberia for annual conference and meetings with leadership -----→						
PRAYER NEEDS Kitty Miller – serving as an ESL instructor at Payap University, Thailand	Dave Hershey – working with students at Penn State Berks campus	Dan Dixon – serving as teacher/class sponsor at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya	Randy & Chris Amberman – working with Native Americans	Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus – traveling safety during deputation, support need	Pray for the E.C. Church of Mexico – safety in the midst of the drug cartel violence	Pray for safe return of Randy and group from Liberia
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
PRAYER NEEDS Pray for the E.C. Church of Nepal – growing despite persecution and threats	Ken Sears – serving at Zaporozhye Bible College in Ukraine	Pray for the E.C. Church of Japan – helping those in tsunami affected area	Jonathan & Kathy Wilson – SIL translators with Binandere in PNG	Share God's love with those around you!	Pray for the E.C. Church of Liberia – still trying to rebuild after decades of civil war	Joe Toy – doing open air ministry on college campuses and public events
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
PRAYER NEEDS Chris & Deb Bowers – working at Moody Aviation School, Washington	Barbara Erb – active retiree still serving in Suriname	February 19 – Red Rose District meeting – Lancaster Faith E.C. – evening Pray for Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe – church planters in Japan, expecting 1st child!	Jamie & Anita Farr – praise that daughter Sierra's adoption is final	Pray for our E.C. church leaders – both international and USA	Ron & Brenda Anderson – church planting/prison ministries in Spain	BJ & Rachel Whitaker – preparing for 3-month furlough in USA
24	25	26	27	28		
February 24 – out		February 26 – FIT Core group meeting - afternoon	- Roy Haglund - Jonathan Wilson 			
PRAYER NEEDS Art & Mary Ellen Davis – retired but active in Kenya	Pray for the E.C. Church of India – praise for continued growth!	John & Carolyn Miller – printing of Bru Bible begins	Pray for our E.C. Church planters, both in USA and abroad	Pray for the persecuted church worldwide		

MARCH BIRTHDAYS
 March 6 – David Dick
 March 7 – Joan Farr
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+ INDICATES MISSIONS ASSOCIATE