

OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

► **Congratulations** to all our MK's who are graduating from high school and college this year! **Alyssa Stoltzfus** graduates from RVA in Kenya, **Megan Amberman** graduates from Piedra Vista High School in NM, **Wesley Schubert** graduates from Highland College in Freeport, IL and **Justin Wills** graduates from Indian Land High School in SC. **Caleb Sizemore** graduates from Lock Haven University.

► The voluntary "Thank Offering" funds will be re-designated from the current purpose described in Rules of Conference section 704.3.2 as missionary benevolence and office staffing to be used as a source of income support for our international EC Church mission conferences. Currently there is no regular designated income stream to help support our international EC churches. The other GMC offerings will remain as listed.

► **Ron & Brenda Anderson** will be in the USA briefly this month for meetings and to do some deputation. We hope to have them do a presentation at the GMC luncheon at National Conference on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

► Congratulations to **BJ and Rachel Whitaker**, who are expecting an addition to the family in late August. Baby Whitaker will join big sister Miriam, an active toddler.

► As of June 1st, the EC-sponsored work in Costa Rica will no longer be connected with Global Ministries or carry the EC name. The number of churches has dwindled, and the current field leader, William Araya, is unable to continue in leadership due to health issues. William assures us that the churches still in existence will continue to minister to their people.



GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION  
OF THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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GOING THROUGH THE ROOF

In Mark 2, the miracle of the healing of a paralyzed man by Jesus is recorded. As a child, I remember seeing the picture of a man being lowered in front of Jesus to be healed. It was all very neat and pretty, with bright colors. As an adult, I read that passage of scripture and think, "How'd they get away with that?!" Imagine, carrying a paralyzed friend UP on to the roof! Then you decide to dig a hole in it to lower him down in front of Jesus! This is someone else's house, and you are tearing apart the top floor, right through the ceiling of the living room. That isn't done easily, quickly or quietly. What did the people inside the house think when they heard the thumping, and all of a sudden dirt started sifting down? What did the home owner think?! I would imagine he was not a happy camper!

In today's world, those men almost certainly would be the recipients of a lawsuit, if not arrested. The evening news would have someone at the scene, pictures of the hole in the roof would be paraded endlessly on TV and the internet, and the home owner would be interviewed ad nauseum. Everyone would focus on the damage to the house, and miss the miracle - a paralyzed man walked!

How many of us would be willing to risk public humiliation or incarceration in order to bring someone to Christ? Many of our international pastors and missionaries face that possibility daily. While we may never see that kind of persecution, do we take the opportunities that God provides for us to share about Him with others? Do we think 'outside the box' when it comes to ways to talk to neighbors and friends about Jesus? We miss so many opportunities - and miracles - because we don't look for them. Let's ask the Holy Spirit for renewed eyes, so that we can recognize and take advantage of the opportunities he provides to share the Gospel with a world that so desperately needs to hear Good News.

*"Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!"*

-I Corinthians 9:16

-Pat Strain

MAY PRAYER CALENDAR INSIDE

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

# EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



# May 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>JUNE BIRTHDAYS</b> June 5(2002) – Hannah Moury      June 8 – Rev. Nick Lakatos June 6 – Bonnie Bound*          June 11 – Wendy Toy June 6(2000) – Kent Ehrman      June 12(1991) – Leah Sizemore <small>* INDICATES RETIREE (c) INDICATES CANDIDATE                      + INDICATES MISSIONS ASSOCIATE</small>		1	2	3	4 – Nancy Graff – Concé Roof	5 – Valerie Schubert
<b>HERE AND THERE</b> – Randy Sizemore		<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for persecuted church world- wide.	Fern Sweigert – retiree in KY – health issues	Pray for Bishop Bruce Hill as he prepares for National Conference	Joe Toy – open air ministry on college campuses	Pray for Rev. Elias Martinez, leader of the EC Church of Mexico
6 – Carolyn Miller – Jamie Farr	7	8	9 – Aaron Toy (1991)	10 – Carolyn Saltenberger*	11	12
May 6 – Speak at Clark’s Valley EC Church in the morning service						May 12 – Caleb’s graduation from Lock Haven University
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for the new leadership of our EC Church of India	Roy & Sue Haglund – finishing up a 2-week deputation swing in IL	Pray for Rev. Nobuo Abe, leader of the EC Church of Japan	BJ & Rachel Whitaker – church planters in Alcora, Spain	Ken Sears – teaching at Zaporozhye Bible College, Ukraine	Pray for our EC church planters, both in the USA and around the world	Kitty Miller – continuing furlough in USA through September
13	14	15	16	17 – Rev. BJ Whitaker	18	19 – Genevieve Ehrman (2002)
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Brian & Missy Wagner – teachers & administrators at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya	Kurt & Nancy – training young people to serve in closed countries	David & Concé Roof – continued deputation schedule on last few months of furlough	Jeremy Kunkel –with EMI, designing buildings for other mission agencies	Robert & Bettina Schaeffer – working with LIFE ministries in NY and W. Reading area	Pray for our EC church planters, both in the USA and around the world	Gloria Smethers – preparing for a year of furlough in the USA, starting in July
20 – Sarah Wilson (1992)	21	22	23	24	25	26
May 20 – Speak at Bangor United EC Church in morning service			←.....→	May 23-25 – National Conference at Messiah College, Grantham, PA	.....→	
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for Rev. Jhanga, leader of the EC Church of Nepal	Jonathan & Kathy Wilson – finishing up year of furlough	Pray for DGM Randy Sizemore; decisions about future of GMC	National Conference begins at Messiah College	GMC sponsors a luncheon at National Conference	Pray for Rev. Matthew Gueh, leader of the EC Church of Liberia	Dorothy Stermer – retiree in Allentown, PA
27 – Jonita Wilson (2007)	28	29	30	31 – Rev. Jack Murray* – Mary Lynne Wills	<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b> May 25 – Brian & Missy Wagner May 25 – Jamie & Anita Farr June 15 – BJ & Rachel Whitaker <small>* INDICATES RETIREE                      (c) INDICATES CANDIDATE                      + INDICATES MISSIONS ASSOCIATE</small>	
May 27 – Speak at Herndon/Mandata/Trevorton EC churches in morning service	Remember those who gave their lives for their country, and their faith	Jim Ehrman – Executive Director of the Rivendell Institute, Yale University	Jim & Janet Stahl – training biblical story tellers to accurately share the Gospel	Jim & Joan Farr – pray for situation with translation team member		