

▶ Congratulations to **David Hershey** on being asked to write a chapter for a book on intercultural ministry. The book is entitled Intercultural Ministry: Hope for a Changing World, edited by Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Jann Eldridge-Clanton. Well done!

▶ **Joe Toy** reports that he collected 900 stockings from 13 EC churches. There were also two cash donations which offset the cost to rent an auditorium for Saturday, December 17th from two other churches. Some ladies from various churches have knitted hats, gloves and scarves that were passed out to the folks in his weekly Camden outreach. On Saturday, December 10th some folks from Lancaster Faith came to endure the cold and helped Joe in North Philly as they worked in two neighborhoods off of Diamond Street. Folks from the St. David's EC Church, Weigelstown gave about 100 plus blessing bags that went out to the homeless and others as Joe and his team shared Jesus on the streets of Camden.

▶ **Dan Dixon** reports that his knee is healing well from the arthroscopic surgery to repair a partially torn meniscus. He was on crutches for a bit, and has to take it easy for a while, but is able to walk. No more rugby matches for a while, though!

▶ **Rev. Kaitinkap Vaiphei** reports that ECCI held a missionary training seminar for three days in mid-December, and it went very well. There were 37 participants and six topics were covered. Since the missionaries in attendance were from all over northeast India, there was translation into Assamese, Nepali, Hindi and English. Rev. Vaiphei, the General Director of ECCI, indicated that there will be more training seminars in the future.

▶ **Jim and Joan Farr** will be returning to the USA in May, but will be traveling and arranging for relocating belongings scattered along two coasts to their eventual home in Florida. Although they will be in the USA for much of this year, they are not retiring, just getting things ready for that to happen in another couple of years.

▶ Just a reminder that our missionary candidates, **Cassie Wells** and **Ivy Limbert**, are available for deputation through summer. Ivy hopes to be in Germany by August, and Cassie will be serving somewhere in PA (but doesn't know where yet) by the fall college term. Contact Pat at the GMC office if you would like to book either of these young ladies to share at your church. Email is ecglobal@eccenter.com or call 1-800-866-7584.

▶ Congratulations to **Jonathan and Kathy Wilson**, who will be grandparents again this May courtesy of their daughter Sarah and her husband Brady. Kathy is hoping to come back to the USA in June to meet her new grandbaby as well as visit some other family members.

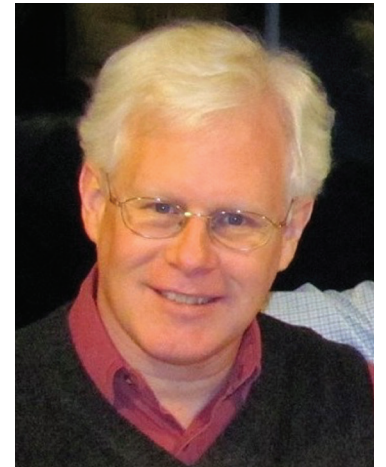


Rev. Ken Sears

On Feb. 15, 1995 I arrived in Ukraine, jet-lagged and emotionally spent after many tearful goodbyes. European Christian Mission had assigned me to Zaporozhye, Ukraine with a highly detailed job description: "Help the Church!" In any case, I had a whole lot of Russian to learn before I could begin to unpack what that meant.

Fast forward to 2017 (and Happy New Year to you!)

The primary avenues of my ministry are my local church and Zaporozhye Bible College and Seminary. The church is extra special to me because I was actually ordained an itinerant elder of the EC Church there and, also, my oldest and dearest Ukrainian friend Vova happens to be my



pastor, too. The word for my church is adventurous! What an honor to be part of such a multi-faceted work with a zealous, open-hearted congregation. My own duties include preaching, music ministry, leading Bible studies and prayer meetings, special creative projects like theater, and other pastoral ministries like counseling and mentoring.

At the Bible college I teach courses on English, biblical languages, principles of interpretation and selected books of the Bible. I also supervise the seniors writing their theses. Along with the teaching there is a great deal of communications work. As I'm the last full-time American on staff, most of the important correspondence with western agencies and supporters is filtered through yours truly, to make sure it's in good English!

My last furlough stateside was the second half of 2015, and, yes, something of its glow is still with me; it is reassuring, fortifying and plain fun to see everyone in the churches again, from the Jersey shore all the way out to Illinois! Next time, God willing: 2019. Hoping to see you...

Thank you so much for your constant partnership in this work all these years, for your support and prayers, encouragement and enthusiastic interest. I am an extension, in Ukraine, of your commitment to Christ, and our Ukrainian brothers and sisters know it, and cherish you for it. Please keep us in prayer, especially during these days of distressing conflict. May the Lord Jesus be glorified in His people, wherever we are and whatever the days may bring.

*Your brother in the grace of Christ,
Ken Sears*

EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

			1	2	3	4
			<p>PRAYER NEEDS David & Conce Roof are now back in northern Brazil, serving as church planters</p>	<p>Pray for all our EC church planters, both in the USA and overseas</p>	<p>Joe Toy – open air ministry in Philadelphia and Camden areas</p>	<p>A number of our missionaries are under-supported; pray that their needs will be met</p>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>PRAYER NEEDS Brian & Missy Wagner – new term at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya where they serve</p>	<p>Dan Moury – videographer for Wycliffe Bible Translators at Orlando, FL headquarters</p>	<p>Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe – church planters in Fuchinobe, Japan. Pray for their daughters and church</p>	<p>Lamar & Janet Stoltzfus – in USA for furlough and deputation. Safety during travel.</p>	<p>BJ & Rachel Whitaker – church planters in Alcora, Spain</p>	<p>Jane Heck, retired missionary active in Southington, OH</p>	<p>Pray for the 13 District Field Directors of our EC-USA church districts; for leadership and vision</p>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<p>PRAYER NEEDS Marcia Hopler, retired missionary who has an active prayer ministry in Philadelphia, PA</p>	<p>Gloria Smethers – serving as a nurse at the AIM Retirement Center in Florida</p>	<p>Share God's love with friends, family and neighbors who need to hear it!</p>	<p>Cassie Wells – missionary candidate serving with Disciple Makers in PA; support raising</p>	<p>Ivy Limbert – missionary candidate preparing to serve as an MK teacher in Germany</p>	<p>Pray for our bishop, Rev. Bruce Hill and all the work of the Conference that he must handle</p>	<p>Robert & Bettina Schaeffer – working in NYC with LIFE Ministries, pastoring in St. Clair, PA</p>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>PRAYER NEEDS Dan & Mary Lynn Wills – serving at JAARS headquarters with Wycliffe and the Seed Company</p>	<p>Pray for the EC Church of Mexico, as preparations continue for it to become a national conference this May</p>	<p>Jonathan & Kathy Wilson – Bible translators among the Binandere people of Papua New Guinea</p>	<p>Jim & Janet Stahl – training Bible story tellers to share the Gospel in their own tongues</p>	<p>Pray for our MK's who may be in school or at college in a different country from where their parents serve</p>	<p>Jim & Joan Farr – hosting Baruga team to help proof translation of scriptures in Papua New Guinea</p>	<p>Pray for the persecuted church everywhere, especially in closed access countries</p>
26	27	28	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>MARCH BIRTHDAYS March 6 – Rev. David Dick March 9 – Joan Farr</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>ANNIVERSARIES February 6 – Dan & Melinda Moury February 21 – Jim & Joan Farr March 8 – David & Conce Roof</p> </div> </div>			
<p>PRAYER NEEDS Pray for the EC international conferences as they reach out to their own people</p>	<p><i>- Roy Haglund - Jonathan Wilson</i>  Major Josh Metz, Army Chaplain for 780th MI Brigade, Ft. Meade, MD</p>	<p>Pray for the health of our missionaries that they may continue to minister</p>				

*DENOTES RETIREE