



Prayer and Praise

Prayer is one of the most loving gifts we can give. When we bring the needs of others before our heavenly Father – whether it be for healing, encouragement, comfort or more – we invoke the most powerful help available.

- ♥ Please be in *prayer*, encouraging our shut-ins: **Vic Brown** (Perley-Rideau), **Darrell and Glenna Dickinson** (home), **Cora Greene** (New Orchard Lodge), **Lil MacNaughton** (Grace Manor), **Frank and Betty Moir** (P.D. Clark), **Jean Mulder** (home), **Cheryl Osborne** (home), **Daphne Phillips** (West End Villa), **Marion Rotar** (Billingswood Manor), and **Audrey Rourke** (home), **Ida Sharpe** (home).
- ♥ Continue to *pray* according to God's will for **Jeanette Dahms**; she has finished her third round of chemo treatments. *Pray* for God's grace, mercy and peace for her, Donald and family.
- ♥ Thank you to my church family for your kind loving gestures to myself and Donald. I so appreciate your love and prayers; I miss you and miss being in the service.....love Jeanette.
- ♥ *Pray* for those who are **ill** and **in hospital** or **facing tests**.
- ♥ *Pray* for **unsaved** family members, friends and co-workers.
- ♥ *Pray* for our **ministry development and growth** here at AV.
- ♥ *Pray* for those in **work situations** where pressures and stresses are great.
- ♥ *Pray* for **Kamp Agappae** which is scheduled for the week of July 27-31. Western theme - **WANTED** - kids 6-12 years old and there is a **REWARD...Bible Stores...Games...Snacks...Crafts...Fun!!** *Prayer Partners* are needed along with other opportunities for ministry. Sign-up table in the foyer; check it out to see where you can help.
- ♥ *Pray* for **Pastor Jim and family** while they are away from us on holidays. *Pray* for safety and for a time of rest and relaxation.
- ♥ Continue to *pray* for the search of a **Youth Pastor/Children's Ministry Director**; *pray* for wisdom for Pastor Jim and our Elders. Also, *pray* that God would be preparing this individual for ministry here at AV, and that all things would go according to His plan for us.
- ♥ Today is **Government Prayer Sunday**. This Sunday is set-aside for us to *pray* for Canada and for our elected governmental leaders.
- ♥ *Pray* for our **teen's spiritual development** and for those that they are reaching out to.

Mission Focus and Prayer Requests

The Brunos

FEBInternational, Italy

Dear Friends,

I was invited to represent the evangelical churches of Rome at a conference organized by a local school in an attempt to lessen the tensions between Italians and immigrants. Italy's birthrate of 1.2 per couple along with the flood of people from outside the European community entering the country has cause many serious problems among the students.

The aim of the conference was to expose cultural and religious beliefs and hopefully thereby increase a tolerance for the diversity. I spoke after the Roman Catholic priest who heads their committee on ecumenism. In the 7 minutes I was given I explained, through my own testimony, that Jesus is the only Saviour. I also emphasized that if I believed that an evolutionary process brought some material from the "primordial soup" through the zoo to be my neighbour I would not have a high view of him. If, on the other hand, I believed that both he and I were created in the image and likeness of God and that we are both responsible for our actions before this moral Creator I would be much more careful how I treated him. No, my message was not well received by all.

During the refreshment time afterwards I asked the Roman Catholic priest what was the aim of the ecumenical council he leads. He told me frankly that it was to unite all "Christian faiths" so that they could work and pray together. He left unsaid "under the authority of the Vatican." I then asked about non-Christian faiths. He said: "We believe that there is a seed of truth in every religion and, should God wish so, that seed of truth is enough to give a person eternal life." I responded: "I believe what the Scriptures says, that salvation is only in and through Christ. Jesus said: 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'. The apostle Peter declares: 'Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which, we must be saved'. The Bible teaches there is no salvation apart from Jesus Christ." Quite indignantly he said to me: "You are a fundamentalist" [meaning a religious bigot] and then walked away.

"Hitting for the cycle" in baseball (a single, a double, a triple, and a home run) is a sought-after feat. In my work of evangelism the "cycle" often is meeting someone, sharing the gospel, reading the Bible with him/her for a period, the person comes to an understanding of the claims of the gospel, rejects it and then quits reading the Bible with me. The Jehovah's Witness man who was meeting with me every second Saturday in a park for several months came over to my apartment just once. We examined the Bible verses he wanted. During the time together he recognized that he had no answer to the verses of the Bible I showed him. Now he refuses to meet with me again. How sad that after the truth is set before one's eyes and he prefers the lies of men.

This may be the last Garlic Press I will be sending until September. I will be in Canada on Home Assignment visiting friends and supporters. While I am away Alfredo, our Italian elder, will be looking after the church. Most of our programs finish this month. I was very encouraged when Alfredo told me the high-school aged boys were sad their class with him wouldn't meet again until October. As a father of 3 boys Alfredo is able to talk with these young men

about the issues that affect their lives. He is an excellent role model and mentor.

Thank you for your partnership with us in the cause of Christ. May God's grace be upon you.

Mario and Rose (The Garlic Press)
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Continue to be much in *prayer* for **Ben Elliott** and his family.

Wednesday, June-24-09 - To God Be the Glory!

As I write to you today, Ben's 4th day of chemo is in progress and he is sleeping right through it. Yeah!!

At the start of this journey God gave both David and I a key word. For David, it was the word "MERCY" and for me it was the word "GLORY". When David has been praying for God to be merciful, he's really been asking for God to display His mercy by healing Ben of the cancer. He may still do that. However, we both also realize that God's mercy may be displayed by Him choosing to stop Ben's suffering and taking him to his ultimate home. Either way, God is merciful...and we will trust Him.

All along I have sensed that this situation with Ben is much bigger than Ben and our family. Somehow this has all been about God's glory. Already God has received much glory and if Ben ultimately dies, only eternity will reveal the countless lives that have been touched and changed because of his journey. We believe there will be people in heaven because of his suffering. However, God would also be glorified in an amazing way if He were to rescue Ben from a sure death and preserve his life. If that happened, would Ben ever have a story to tell! We're praying that God would give Ben the opportunity to tell it! Either way, God is glorified...and we will trust Him.

Last Fall Ben and I had a conversation on one of our road trips to the cancer clinic about the fact that he knew that he wouldn't die before he had accomplished God's purpose for his life. In the conversation we discussed that purpose is not some grandiose thing to be attained to as some might think, but rather it can be lived out day by day in each of our lives. He began, that day, mapping out some things he felt would give him a sense of purpose. However, I also took opportunity at that time to fill him in the purpose God was already fulfilling in his life even as we spoke in the lives of so many who were following his journey and finding hope and encouragement and inspiration for their own walks of life; a purpose far greater than many of us will ever attain to. To God be the glory!

Last night our children along with Ben's girlfriend and some of his close friends were involved in leading a prayer, praise and worship time hosted at our church on Ben's behalf. Word on the street has it that it was an amazing, spectacular and fantastic time had by all spent at the throne of grace. Many of Ben's High School friends and co-workers joined over 100 others from our church and community. ...and God was glorified!

God is truly being glorified to the ends of the earth as we continue to hear from many being impacted by Ben's story. It is already being told in many parts of the world and I stand in awe of the many ways I have heard that God is at work in the hearts and lives of no longer hundreds, but thousands as each one helps to "splash God's glory around".

To the ends of the earth!

Lisa (Mom)



June 28, 2009

Praying Through the Week

Monday – Our Missionaries

Tuesday – Our Ministries

Wednesday – Community and Country

Pray for our leaders and for those that don't know Christ.

Thursday – People

Pray for our church family.

Friday – Church

Pray for our Elder Board, Deacons and the financial needs of our church.

Saturday – Staff

Pray for Ministry and Pastoral staff.

Sunday – Services

Pray for our service/programs and for those who are involved in ministry during this time.

OUR PRAYERS SHOULD be in accordance with the nature of God, therefore the answers are not in accordance with our nature but with His. We are apt to forget this and to say without thinking that God does not answer prayer; but He always answers prayer, and when we are in close communion with Him we know that we have not been misled

Prayer A Holy Occupation - Oswald Chambers