

Pray for the Persecuted Church: Burma (Myanmar)

Health Struggles Plague Imprisoned Pastor Sources: Morning Star News, International Christian Concern

One of the two assistant pastors arrested by army officials last Christmas Eve is suffering deteriorating health from malnutrition. Pastor Dom Dawng Nawng Latt, 65, has become weak, lacks energy and suffers from asthma and dysentery, according to fellow pastor La Jaw Gam Hseng, 35, who is on trial with him.

Khon Peng, the wife of Pastor Dom, reported that he is increasingly discouraged: "He has to share the room with 40 people in custody. So it is very tough for him.... He suffers both mentally and physically." Even though Pastor Dom was transferred from Mongko town in Muse Township to Lashio in April, Khon has been able to visit her husband a few times, bringing him needed food and medicine.

The two assistant pastors were arrested for helping local journalists cover news of attacks on a church building in northern Shan state (eastern Burma) in November 2016. On December 24th, they went to the Byuha Gon military base to negotiate the release of a civilian couple who had complained to army officials about the destruction of their house. The military officials decided to release the couple and, instead, detain the clergymen.

An army prosecutor has charged the two pastors with recruiting and spying for armed ethnic groups such as the Kachin Independence Army, the second largest ethnic armed group in Burma. The two pastors, along with other denominational leaders, deny the charge. Sources believe the army arrested the two pastors for enabling the three local journalists to take pictures of a church building that was bombed by Burmese army jets last November.

Pray that the Lord will be with Pastor Dom as he battles illness in prison, providing him the comfort, healing, and strength required to carry on. As both pastors await deliverance, may they be given opportunities to minister to others - including the prison guards and workers. Also remember the pastors' families in prayer, that they will draw resolve from our Almighty God who promises to be a "refuge from the storm" (Isaiah 25:4).

Missions Update for Dr. Brandon Steger

Please be in prayer for the medical missionary family we support, Dr. Brandon and Kim Steger and their daughters Hannah, Katie and Grace. They will be heading overseas this August through April to work with refugees escaping ISIS. The Steger family will spend three months in Greece working with refugees and administrative work (through YWAM), doing whatever God calls them to do. After that they will be in Beirut, Lebanon (through In His Image) where Dr. Steger will be working in a medical missions clinic. Knowing there are those who do not want to hear about Jesus, their youngest child has expressed a concern that they could possibly lose their lives, but she also said that she knows they will be in heaven if that should happen. When they return to the USA, they will be moving from Oklahoma to Minnesota.

In September, we will be showing a video of the Steger family's latest calling. An offering will also be taken at that time. The Stegers have saved enough money to cover their expenses, but have asked that support go to the clinic he will be working at in Lebanon. It costs \$9,000 a month to run the clinic and it is losing its funding in January. A letter detailing the Stegers' work will be on the missions bulletin board. You can follow their travels on their blog emboldenedsisters3.blogspot.com or email them at emboldenedsisters3@gmail.com.

BRANDON VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday, July 16, 2017

Accompanist: Jan Questad and Jackie Kramer

Greeters: Glen & Doris Conradson Usher: Justin Tiffany

Scripture Reader: Joan Murphy Nursery: Shawna James

Children's Church: Matt Murphy and Cade Fox

9:30 am

Worship Service

Welcome, Announcements, and Christian Greetings

Praise Affirmation..... 1 John 3:1-2

Hymn #44..... "Children of the Heavenly Father"

Prayer of Praise

Offering

Offertory – Jackie Kramer

Doxology (*Hymn #625*) – please stand

Ministry of Music

Scripture Reading..... Mark 10:13-16

Children's Moments Video

Children may be excused for Children's Church (3 yrs-2nd grade)

Sermon... "Let the Children Come"..... Pastor Merv Kramer

Prayer Response

Closing Hymn #462..... "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Benediction

Postlude

***Nursery care is available for children infant thru 3 years old

(Please contact an usher for information and/or direction)

***Hearing Amplifier Available – Please contact an usher

Please join us after the worship service for coffee and treats in the fellowship room.

NEEDED: Summer Sunday School Teachers for the PreK-3rd grade class for July-August (one teacher per month, if possible)

Sunday School for All Ages

Combined All Ages Sunday School – Introduction to VBS

For Your Information and Prayer

- Today: -5:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Service
- Today-Thurs.: -6:30-8:00 p.m. VBS
- No Thursday Women's Bible Study until fall

Next Sunday: July 23, 2017

- Greeters: Aaron & Erica Skogen
- Usher: Gene Preston
- Nursery: TBD
- Scripture Reader: Justin Tiffany
- Children's Church: Barbara Young and Hailey Skogen

Upcoming Events:

July 28: 7:05 p.m. Faith and Family Night at the Canaries game (gates open at 6:00 p.m.)

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**Card Shower:** Please send cards of encouragement to Jim and Lajeanne Wright at 920 4th St. Palisade Manor room 301 Garretson, SD 57030

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NEEDED: Awana has a new program for grades 3-5. Contact Joan about training. We also need volunteers to be a grades K-2 story person and a special events coordinator. We're also seeking a volunteer for Commander.

OUR GIVING:

Sunday, July 9, 2016

General Giving	\$	3,076.25
Love Offering – Union Gospel Mission	\$	336.24
Furnace Fund	\$	500.00
Building Fund	\$	25.00
Total	\$	3,424.49

(Approximately \$2,500 is needed each week to meet expenses)

Our Prayer Partnership

- Splitrock Lutheran Church, Rural Corson
- Taylor University & Seminary, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

***** Praise & Prayer*****

Carol, mother of Theresa Friesen, recovering from a stroke

Daphne Dunger, (retired missionary) healing from surgery on broken leg, now in rehabilitation at Bethany Lutheran Home in Sioux Falls

Elmer Gerdes, healing from hip fracture surgery, at Garretson nursing home

Lajeanne Wright, wife of Jim Wright, has been moved from the hospital to Garretson Palisades Nursing Home (room 301), continue to pray for increasing mental clarity, and also encouragement for Jim

Ron Benson, brother of Mike Benson, for heart health issues

Amanda Benson, as her sending church, Amanda has asked that we lift her up in prayer as she is in the mission field.

Serving Our Country: Josh Onnen, Air Guard; Chad Carlson, Air Guard (Son-in-law of Carl & Lindy Johnson); Kristina Lee, Air Force (Grandchild of Ray & Dee Olson)

We extend the hand of Christian love and sympathy to Sharon Hall and family in the recent loss of her mother.

We extend the hand of Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of church member Kevin Van Malsen who passed away last weekend.