

Bridge of Prayer

Mission Without Borders Australia

January-February 2011

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." James 1:27 (NIV)

DAY 1. MWB AUSTRALIA. We have so much to give thanks to God for. Our 50th Anniversary year (2010) allowed good time to celebrate the past, but most importantly give thanks for way the ministry has developed over time.

DAY 2. Jubilee Bible Project. Give thanks for the great generosity toward our Jubilee Bible Project worldwide. We have a way to go to meet our target of 1,000,000 Bibles and our field countries are ready with plans for distributing all 1,000,000 Bibles. To date, Australia has donated more than 17,000 Bibles. Pray we can meet the target in 2011.

DAY 3. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Give thanks for the wonderful generosity of individuals who have acted as Collection Points during 2010. We could not achieve what we do without their support. Pray these networks further develop in 2011 as this huge country of ours makes logistics tough!

DAY 4. 'Gift in Kind'. Give thanks for the generosity of Total Care Logistics, who deliver the donated items from individuals and companies to us in either Sydney or Melbourne. They are a huge blessing and answer to prayer!

DAY 5. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Sydney. Give thanks for all volunteers who helped us in 2010. We are amazed how often we see everything is packed, wonder what to do next, then the next car or truck arrives with a wonderful array of knitted items – please pray the Lord blesses all involved!

DAY 6. 'Gift in Kind' with 'Operation Cover-Up'. Melbourne. Give thanks for Jenny Grainger and the fantastic volunteers who organise and pack your knitted items so quickly! Pray for God's blessing on each of their lives in 2011.

DAY 7. Operation Winter Rescue. Intensely cold weather conditions make the swift delivery of our containers vital. Pray our Sydney container sent early December and the next Melbourne container (due to be sent early 2011), arrive safely in Holland and items are shipped immediately to each field country.

DAY 8. The Pressures of the Economic Crisis. Instability was common in each of our field countries in 2010. Economically, politically and socially, they were tough times and it seems their insurmountable problems will continue into 2011. Pray for provision for the poor and political stability, so they can weather the instability without collapse.

DAY 9. Family-to-Family. F2F. With snow's first fall in November, many families who could not afford winter coats and boots for their children, told their children to abandon school until warmer weather arrives. Pray we can provide the families with what they need, so they can begin to break the cycle of poverty with education.

DAY 10. ALBANIA. F2F. Bega family. Lumnie needs our prayers as she struggles to raise her two children alone. Their father has abandoned the family and they live in one tiny room. **They need 4 sponsors to meet their ongoing needs and also have urgent needs of a gas cooking stove (\$400) and kitchen supplies (\$115).**

DAY 11. ALBANIA. F2F. Himadhi. Agim is an invalid, after a mine accident and Lindita is paralysed by Polio. They are unemployed and receive a small invalid pension. They have two sons. Their eldest son is a talented musician and would like to earn a living by playing at weddings and birthdays. \$2537 for an electric piano is far beyond this family's means. Pray a way is found for him to use his talent to support his family.

DAY 12. BOSNIA. F2F. Sabic. Remzija is struggling to raise her 5 children alone after the children's father disappeared (he is a refugee from Kosovo who had overstayed his permission). Having lived her life on the streets Remzija is illiterate. They live in a tiny apartment in a settlement for refugees. They all sleep on one pull out sofa. **They need 3 sponsors to meet their ongoing needs. Urgent needs of a sofa bed, cupboards and a fridge would make a great improvement on their terrible living conditions.**

DAY 13. BULGARIA. (F2F) Shetnov-Antonova. Dimitar and Kristina live in a small room of Dimitar's parent's house with their son Rumen (4). With both parents unemployed (Kristina recently lost her seamstress job) their dream is to finish their own home (it's already built but inhabitable). **They need 4 sponsors to meet their ongoing needs and a bed and cupboard would be a blessing for their son.**

DAY 14. COMMUNITY CENTRES. They are a haven year round, but never more so than in the height of winter. Pray the elderly can manage the ice and snow to come for their hot meals and fellowship.

DAY 15. CHILDREN'S HOMES. With budgets cut by 20-40%, Homes will not be able to provide adequate diets, heating and medicines for the children during the long winter. Pray for protection of their health.

DAY 16. MOLDOVA. Thousands were devastated by flooding last summer. Pray that despite the cold temperatures repairs are completed on damaged homes and the local authorities can provide housing for those who lost everything.

DAY 17. MOLDOVA. CRI in Community. Ionela (12) comes from a large, poor family. She has 4 siblings, her parents are unemployed and unable to provide for their children. Ionela is honest, diligent, hardworking, friendly and outgoing. She would like to be a shop assistant when she grows up as she likes to be helpful to others. **A sponsor is needed to provide Ionela's ongoing needs.**

DAY 18. MOLDOVA. CRI in Community. Catalin (11) comes from a family with both parents, who are very poor and unemployed. He has 2 siblings. Catalin is in grade 4 and is athletic, diligent, friendly and honest. Catalin would like to be a businessman when he grows up. Catalin believes "Jesus is my Lord. I know He loves me". **A sponsor is needed to provide his ongoing needs.**

DAY 19. MOLDOVA. F2F. Grosu. Anatol and Elena have a brand new son Tudor. Elena is on maternity leave and Anatol is unemployed and has no qualifications. He never attended school (because of poor health). They have no bathroom, an outside toilet and a summer kitchen. **They need 4 sponsors to meet their ongoing needs. Urgent needs of shoes, clothes, hygiene items and a bed for the baby would be a blessing.**

DAY 20. MOLDOVA. F2F. Manoli. This poor Christian family has two daughters and live in a house in bad need of repairs. They ask for prayer for Mihail as he is the Youth Leader in their local church. **They are able to grow vegetables on nearby land, would love to construct a greenhouse (\$3098) and use it for providing food for their family and earning an income.**

DAY 21. CHRISTMAS MINISTRY FOLLOW-UP. As we deliver Operation Christmas Love parcels, deliver Christmas gifts and treats to children in the Homes, we love to present Christmas plays, concerts and deliver Bibles and great Christmas literature. The Gospel Message is always central to the celebrations. Pray for follow-up. May children, families and the elderly respond to the Gospel message and accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

DAY 22. ROMANIA. F2F. Buta. Dumitru and Raduta live with their 2 daughters in a very small house on the outskirts of town. They have electricity, an outside bathroom but no water, gas, heating or toilet. Radut recently lost her job and Dumitru works as a shepherd but is currently unable to work as he recovers from surgery. **They need 2 more sponsors to meet their ongoing needs.**

DAY 23. UKRAINE. F2F. The Simonchuk family is a hardworking family of 6. The father is an Art teacher and earns \$59/month. The mother is unemployed, cares for the 4 children but suffers from stomach problems. They live in a two room house with gas heating, no bathroom and an outside toilet. **They are in urgent need of kitchen furniture (\$625), a wardrobe (\$562) and a shower recess (\$562) which would greatly improve their living conditions.**

DAY 24. UKRAINE. F2F. The Karpyuk family is a joyful Christian family with 8 children. They live in a small house that is wood heated, has no bathroom and an outside toilet. **5 windows need replacing (\$1000) to protect the family from the harsh weather and purchase of a Fugue machine for carpentry (\$1337), would enable the older boys to earn an income for the family.** Pray that the family continues to trust God to meet all their needs.

DAY 25. Operation Winter Rescue. Please pray we can safely negotiate the icy road to make the deliveries of urgently needed winter clothes, boots and fuel for heating, as the Children's Homes, poor families, elderly and disabled are counting on our help to survive the long winter.

DAY 26. UKRAINE. CRI. Ukraine. Solomiya (9) is healthy but suffers from mental retardation. Her parents are married but unemployed and therefore unable to meet her special education needs. She has two older brothers and is in Grade 2. **Solomiya needs a sponsor to meet her needs and encourage her.**

DAY 27. UKRAINE. CRI. Ukraine. Illya (8) has two siblings, but their parents have been deprived of their rights. He is healthy but requires special education. Although Illya is very shy, he is helpful and likes sport, particularly playing soccer with his friends. **Illya needs a sponsor to meet his needs and encourage him.**

DAY 28. UKRAINE. F2F. Tkachuk. This Christian family with 7 children recently lost their home to fire. They are currently living in Natalia's parent's house, but the children must sleep on the floor as there is insufficient space. **They need two more sponsors and urgently need building materials, dishes, furniture and winter shoes.**

DAY 29. MWB Australia supporters. As 2011 begins, we are thankful for every supporter who gives of their time to pray, make practical contributions and give financially. Every dollar donated, every family, child and project sponsored is making a very real difference. Our prayer is all will be blessed by their involvement.

DAY 30. MWBI. Field Staff and Volunteers. They have hearts of gold and are daily faced with overwhelming poverty and need. However, our ministry is a labour of love. Pray for strength and stamina during the winter.

DAY 31. MWB. International. The first large dumping of snow happened before the end of November, which is going to make the winter months very long and hard for the poor we serve. Please pray we have the resources we need and for wisdom as our leadership makes tough decisions on how to distribute the resources.

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This prayer letter is available online at www.mwb.org.au**