

European Christian Mission

March 2021

# prayerdiary



## MONDAY 1

### **AUSTRIA:** Tobias and Esther Giersch in Arriach

Please pray that the Lord would comfort Tobias and Esther. Due to complications during the pregnancy Kaleb's kidneys and lungs did not develop normally. Kaleb was born by emergency c-section on 20th February, 6 weeks early. His life could be sustained with intensive medical support, but it quickly became clear that he would not survive without this. Medical support was withdrawn the next day and Kaleb took his last heartbeat in Tobias and Esther's arms. Tobias and Esther know that Kaleb is with the Lord, but of course their hearts are broken. Let the ECM family lift them to the Lord throughout the coming weeks.

*I can do all things  
through him who  
strengthens me.*

**Philippians 4: 13**

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## TUESDAY 2

### **ECMI: INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Please pray for the International Leadership Team meeting today and on 4 March as they discuss various issues, including the feedback from the Strategic Review and the current state of mission in Europe in the light of the Covid crisis and other influences on our calling to present the good news of Jesus in the countries in which we serve. Pray that God will give discernment and clarity as we respond to all that is happening and that we may be obedient and faithful as individuals and as a mission to God's leading.

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## WEDNESDAY 3

### **ECMI: SPRING CONNECT**

Next week we will be gathering for Spring Connect, 9-12 March. Please pray for final preparations by the team, especially Chloë Wolfson. Pray for the material to come together in a cohesive and helpful way. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be preparing our hearts to receive whatever it is He has for us.





#### **THURSDAY 4**

##### **BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA: Radovan and Blazenka Trajkovski in Novi Travnik**

In February we started an Alpha Course with 10 young parents, and there is an amazing spiritual atmosphere. Please pray for the group to continue to come regularly to Church meetings.

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#### **FRIDAY 5**

##### **AUSTRIA: David and Lind James In Villach**

Please pray for those in ECM who have Covid at the moment. This includes Simon Marshall, the International Director. Please pray for others who are unable to travel to see family or to return to their place of ministry. In some cases, people are unable to return to comfort and support family members who are dying or, as in our case, who need care.

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#### **SATURDAY 6**

##### **GERMANY: Christian and Kseniya Kooiman in Schwerin**

Praise God for several people who want to be baptised. We would like to start a baptism course soon with them. Would you pray that these people will grow in faith and knowledge of God and that many more people will join them.

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#### **SUNDAY 7**

##### **ECM AUSTRALIA: Samuel and Emily Loa-Ferreira, new Candidates for Portugal**

Praise God for opportunities he has provided us to be trained this year for gospel work in Portugal. Samuel is working with the Christian group at the University of Sydney and Emily is studying at Bible College. Pray that we might trust in the Lord with all our heart, and not lean on our own understanding but acknowledge him in all our ways trusting he will make our paths straight. Pray that God will continue to build his church in Portugal, with the challenges Covid has brought to the small and fragile church.

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#### **MONDAY 8**

##### **PORTUGAL: Joel and Cecília Oliveira in Vila Nova de Gaia**

We would appreciate prayers for our transition from university ministry to serving exclusively in the local church, which will include the need for more financial support. Also, we are preparing for a 4-month sabbatical starting end of April before we embrace the new challenge. We praise God for the opportunity of serving in the university ministry for 7 years.

## **TUESDAY 9**

### **ECMI: SPRING CONNECT**

Today March 9, Spring Connect starts. Please pray that people will be able to take the time to use the material which has been prepared and that it will be a blessing to them. Pray that technology works for those who need it. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be at work in the hearts of all involved in ECM "...so that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ".

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## **WEDNESDAY 10**

### **PORTUGAL: Mike and Daveen Wilson in Mourão**

We are thankful for plenty of rain and reservoir refilling. Also, that Covid cases are down to one now, after a bad spell. Pray for better relationship between town and Roma community. Also, against corruption in the town council.

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*Mike and  
Daveen Wilson  
In Portugal*



## **THURSDAY 11**

### **ECM Britain: Rachel Gurney, HR Assistant**

Today 11 March, I am participating in a virtual Christian Union (IFES) event for students in Birmingham. I will join representatives from other organisations for this mission-focused evening. Please pray that the event will inspire Christian students and help them to engage with mission – now and in the future. Pray for Christian Unions in the UK and elsewhere as they continue to move in-person events and campus outreach to online platforms.

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## **FRIDAY 12**

### **UKRAINE: Roman and Iryna Matviyiv, New Hope Team in Lviv**

We praise God for the Internet Evangelism ministry and many people who came closer to God through it and the Children's preschool ministry and Bible Correspondence Courses program that are now online. Please pray for the health of Nazar Ilkiv (Youth Ministry coordinator) who suffers from Chrohn's disease. His doctor says that he needs surgery but will try a month of treatment first. Also, pray for Petro Savka who has broken his leg very badly.

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## **SATURDAY 13**

### **ECMI: SPRING CONNECT**

Praise God for Spring Connect and the way it was a blessing to so many. Thank God for all who were involved in the organising. Pray that the Spirit would continue working in our hearts so that we

would continue to process and apply the things that were learnt. Pray for new connections that were made; that people may be able to stay in touch and be a blessing to one another.

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#### **SUNDAY 14**

##### **ITALY: Richard and Pinuccia Wilson in Trento**

In July we are planning on moving 35 km to the south, to the town of Rovereto, where the church at Trento planted a church almost 10 years ago. After 28 years at Trento for Richard, it will be good to have new challenges and opportunities. Pray for the selling of the house and the search for a new one, and for the discussions with the leaders of the two churches on how best to make this transition.

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#### **MONDAY 15**

##### **SLOVENIA: Goran Macura in Ljubljana**

Please pray for Blaž. He is 19 years old and is in a stage where he is struggling with the will to live. He is my boss's youngest son. I am talking with him about Christ through the word and video.

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#### **TUESDAY 16**

##### **SERBIA: Branko and Rada Tihoevic in Zajecar**

Please pray for the Zajecar team because all of us got Covid. Novica and Tamara overcame it in two weeks and Rada is now much better. I, Branko, had the hardest time, spending eleven days in hospital because of lung pneumonia. Thank God and to medical staff that I came home with improved health, but I still need medication. Wherever God opens the door it is an opportunity, so I witnessed in hospital and gave five booklets and three books to patients and even medical staff. Pray for Novica and Tamara as they now are taking care of church members with needs in Zajecar and other churches in the area.

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#### **WEDNESDAY 17**

##### **REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Colin and Ally Holmes in Waterford**

Recent tests have found the cause of Colin's brain haemorrhage last summer to be a small AVM (abnormal tangle of blood vessels). The plan is for surgery to remove this, hopefully in mid to late March, depending on reducing number of Covid cases in hospital. Although the news was somewhat unexpected, we are thankful this has been detected and can be addressed. Please pray for a good outcome from surgery and for a good recovery.

*Branko and Rada  
Tihoevic  
In Serbia*



## **THURSDAY 18**

### **SPAIN: Edgar and Jane Álvarez in Madrid**

We joined with our home sending church in Glasgow as they talked and prayed about the way forward for the rest of 2021 and what God is calling them to be when meeting together eventually resumes. Pray for wisdom as they move forward with this.

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## **FRIDAY 19**

### **REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Jonathan and Nicola McCracken in Claremorris**

Ireland is still in lockdown and we have had quite tight restrictions since Christmas. Pray that we would be able to encourage one another during these days and stay connected with family and friends. Pray for the government that they would make wise decisions about reopening society again and for the vaccines as they are rolled out.

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## **SATURDAY 20**

### **GERMANY: Martin and Anya Teubert in Ribnitz-Damgarten**

We hope to restart with our kids-club "BrückeKids" again soon. Most of the children come from families that have a lot of needs. They enjoy our meetings, a time and place where they get some love and attention. Please pray for them – that on a long run we can reach them with the love of Jesus.

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## **SUNDAY 21**

### **ITALY: Susanne Stoehr in Macherio**

Praise the Lord: Emanuela started a project on reading books and matching them with paintings of mine. She succeeded in including many people praying or contributing with little tasks. Pray that we can have access also to libraries. Pray for my neighbour Maria Teresa. Her grandchild Sveva got leukaemia at the age of four; she is very angry with God and believes that her dead mom will heal Sveva. May Jesus reveal himself to this family!

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## **MONDAY 22**

### **SPAIN: Jim and Christine Memory, Aguilar de la Frontera**

Please pray for the ECM International Strategic Review, which is now at the critical stage, that God would give us wisdom to discern where to put our focus in the years ahead. Pray too for Jim's work with the Lausanne movement in Europe, as he leads a team which draws hundreds of leaders across Europe into a conversation each month about the crucial issues for mission in Europe today.





## **TUESDAY 23**

### **ECM NEW ZEALAND: Féy Cotter, Mobiliser, and International Support**

On behalf of ECM NZ, I have been appointed as a Council member of NZ Missions Interlink (a network organisation that supports the work of mission from and within NZ). My first meeting will be today March 23. Pray that I will listen well, learn, and contribute wisely. I was expecting to teach two Bible College classes this semester, but one class was cancelled because of low enrolments. Please pray that I will embrace this change, which means I will now focus on preparing an application to the Government for the College to enrol international students (when they are allowed to return to NZ).

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## **WEDNESDAY 24**

### **NETHERLANDS: Roland and Carolien Smith in Maastricht**

We thank God for the many opportunities to join in prayer with people in our supporting churches, so that despite travel restrictions we are enjoying seeing many well-known faces and also joining in prayer with people we have never met before. This silver lining in the cloud is helping keep that sense of community going in a way we had not anticipated. Praise God for the precious, enriching gift of prayer, especially now.

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## **THURSDAY 25**

### **ECM AUSTRALIA: Michael Walsh in Sydney**

Please pray for my commencement of study at SMBC, my family's current housing situation (we need to find somewhere by end of March), my construction of a support network of financial and prayerful partners.

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## **FRIDAY 26**

### **ROMANIA: Jennifer and Adi Grocott in Timisoara**

Please pray for us as we support a vulnerable friend who has gone through a very traumatic experience. Pray that we would know how best to care for her and that ultimately God would comfort, heal, and restore her. Pray for our children (Anna 6, Luca 3) as they return to face-to-face schooling. Pray that they would enjoy their classes and develop friendships. Pray for a new opportunity in collaboration with a local TV station. Pray that God would guide and direct us.

## **SATURDAY 27**

### **ECM AUSTRALIA: Sam Boog, ECM Media and Promotions officer**

Please pray for us personally, that we would know the Lord's wisdom and guidance. And professionally, that the Lord would bless all the media endeavours this year, that I would have inspiration and creativity and that ECM would be promoted well.

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## **SUNDAY 28**

### **NETHERLANDS: Bert and Jenny De Ruiter in Amsterdam**

Having put one of my training courses online (Approaches to Islam), pray that it will be used by God to impact people for the sake of seeing Muslims come to faith in Christ. I am currently preparing putting another training course online (Sharing Lives). Pray for the preparations, including the recording of 15 videos as well as the outworking of it in due course.

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## **MONDAY 29**

### **SPAIN: Chloe Wolfson in Roquetas del Mar**

Please continue to pray for more team for Roquetas. Give thank for Jay's arrival. We would love to see a team of varied experiences and gifts working to reach the thousands of migrants in this town. Pray for the possibility of short termers, to have a valuable experience, that we would care for them well, but that they'd have lasting impact. Pray for our missionaries who are struggling to react to changing situations and find imagining short term in this context even harder. Pray we would be able to connect the right people to the right opportunities and continue to offer this valuable discipleship.

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## **TUESDAY 30**

### **ECM BRITAIN: Annette Bull, Fundraising and Marketing Manager**

Ministry costs money. Therefore, at the end of March, ECM Britain will be contacting as many supporters as possible to update them on their work and needs. Please pray that people will be inspired to continue to invest in sharing Christ's love in Europe. Pray for missionary candidates who need additional funding before they can go to the mission field, for workers on the field whose funding has decreased, and for sending offices like ECM Britain to serve them wisely and well. We are so thankful that we are not being as badly affected as some charities, but we are still really needing this mailing and appeal to go well and want to generate as much prayer as we can as we seek God's blessing on it!

## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

If you are interested in Short term ministry in the future, we'd love to start the conversation with you.

There are also lots of opportunities for supporting ministry in Europe from your own home.

**Please Contact your nearest ECM office for details.**

Wivenhoe	Colchester
Thorpe-le-Soken	Manningtree
Clacton	Mistley
	Wrabness
	Harwich Intl
	Dovercourt
	Harwich Town



FROM	PLAT	EXPECTED
STANSTED AIRPT	7	1400
BRIHRTREE	12	1403
CHERTHOSE	7	1410
STANSTED AIRPT	6	1410
CLACTON-ON-SEA	12	1410
HORSHAM	8	1424
STANSTED AIRPT	7	1430



## WEDNESDAY 31

### SPAIN: Mauricio and Karina Aldana in Gúeñes

We appreciate your prayers for the new church in Encartaciones, the Basque region in northern Spain, where we serve together with the Webb family. Since last summer we have been working on discipleship and we also have Sunday meetings on Zoom with three families and another woman. We ask that you pray for us as we have experienced spiritual attacks from different fronts. May the Lord keep watch over our brothers and sisters and may they continue to grow in Him, and may we also remain firm in Him and joyful.

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