

Prayer topics for the week of prayer

MONDAY

Psalms 27:13 & 14

“I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”

FOCUS: The country of Nepal: its people, its leaders and the challenges it currently faces.

- ✦ Pray for the leaders of the current government, including the Prime Minister (Madhav Kumar Nepal) and the President (Ram Baran Yadav), party leaders, and heads of the security forces: for wisdom, unity, humility and servant hearts.
- ✦ For the writing of the Constitution: to be inclusive, just and for the benefit of all.
- ✦ For a development of trust between the different parties, especially the leaders.
- ✦ That the Maoists will be willing to reject violence completely.
- ✦ For those who still live in bitterness and anger because of what has happened to them or their family members.
- ✦ For organisations seeking to bring healing in different ways to needy groups e.g. displaced people, trafficked girls, people living with HIV/AIDS, etc
- ✦ For those affected by floods and landslides recently, and by the cholera epidemic in Western Nepal.
- ✦ For a better harvest than is predicted following the failure of the winter rains and delayed arrival of the monsoon, particularly in the face of rising global food prices.
- ✦ For a sense of hope to be regenerated in the country.

TUESDAY

Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”.

FOCUS: The work of Tansen and Okhaldhunga hospitals, the leadership, the staff, the people they serve and the transition process.

- ✦ Recently Tansen particularly has felt under spiritual attack due to a number of incidents which have resulted in local people trying to gain personal and political advantage by stirring up trouble against the hospital. In the current climate, this is a real problem affecting many hospitals across the country. Please pray for Rachel Karrach and the management team in Tansen as they deal with these issues, for protection for the hospital as a whole, and safety for the staff. Also pray for the goodwill of the majority of community members to triumph at these times of criticism from a minority. Pray also for other hospitals across the country e.g. Dadeldhura, facing similar issues.
- ✦ Pray for those providing leadership in the hospitals in this difficult environment, particularly Olak Jirel, Rachel Karrach and Tuk Harijan.
- ✦ Pray for the recruitment of senior personnel, including doctors, and for a tutorial teacher for Tansen, and for adequate funding for the hospitals.

Transition issues: Pray for David McConkey, Olak Jirel and the Hospital Executive Committee as they take forward the transition of the hospitals. Particularly for:

- ✦ Formation of the new hospital NGO (United Mission Hospitals Association (UMHA)), the writing of the constitution, registration of the organisation, and selection of board members.
- ✦ Approval of the process and signing of the agreement with the Ministry of Health and Population, for the transition of the hospitals to UMHA.
- ✦ For positive discussions with stakeholders at local level regarding the transition.
- ✦ For signing of the agreement regarding Tansen Nursing School (TNS), between the Government and Tansen Hospital.
- ✦ For the principal of TNS (Sakuntala Tanju) as she is looking for her replacement in Tansen before she leaves for Kathmandu, and for the recruitment of senior staff.

WEDNESDAY

Luke 18:7

“And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?”

FOCUS: UMN’s property in Kathmandu.

The land in Thapathali, Kathmandu on which UMN’s offices are built, was purchased by UMN in 1986. As INGO’s are not allowed to purchase property, the land was purchased under the name of Himal Hydro, a company set up by UMN. The value of the land has risen significantly and Himal Hydro are now unwilling to return the property to UMN. This has turned into a long running issue which needs concentrated prayer!

- ✦ Pray for justice to be done; that UMN will be able to secure control over the Thapathali property.
- ✦ Pray for good relationships between UMN and Himal Hydro despite the current dispute.
- ✦ For wisdom for David McConkey and the leadership team in making good decisions in relation to the property.
- ✦ For positive responses from relevant government officials. Everyone we have spoken to agree that we have justice on our side.
- ✦ For wisdom for our legal advisor as he guides us in this matter.
- ✦ Give thanks for others who give of their time generously to help us in this issue.

THURSDAY

Proverbs 16:9

“In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps”.

FOCUS: UMN’s strategic planning process.

We are entering a critical period for our thinking with regards to the new strategic plan for UMN. We have been reminded of our heritage and the excellent work which UMN has achieved over the past 55 years. We rejoice that we are successfully completing the work outlined in the current strategy and that we are capacity building approx. 80 partners across our 7 clusters. Our consultation with staff has highlighted the need to refine our approaches to further improve our partner and community-level impact and to streamline how we are working. Over the coming months we will be developing strategic directions for UMN which aim to build on our strengths and mitigate our weaknesses. We are unsure of what the strategy will be but we trust and pray that God’s heart is for the people and the nation and that He will be central to our strategic plan.

Please pray for:

- ✦ That we would be listening to God throughout this process, and sensitive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and that he would lead us into the future he has planned for us.
- ✦ Guidance for the Leadership Team and topic team leaders as they discuss and begin to develop concepts for the future strategy.
- ✦ For openness and good times of discussion as concepts are further developed and shared across the organisation.
- ✦ Care for one another and sensitivity as we help each other through a period of uncertainty as the plans develop.
- ✦ Servant hearts so that we act on behalf of the partners and communities that God has given us the privilege of working alongside.
- ✦ Grenville Hopkinson as he facilitates the strategic planning process throughout UMN, and for the leadership team as they pull together the plan.

FRIDAY

Hebrews 10:23

*“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,
for he who promised is faithful.”*

FOCUS: The church in Nepal and the Nepali Christian community as a whole.

Please pray specifically for the following issues:

- ✝ For unity in diversity in the Christian Community.
- ✝ For those who are anxious due to the recent security threats to the church and Christians by the National Defense Army (NDA) who were responsible for the recent bombing of the Catholic Church in Kathmandu.
- ✝ For pastors who have personally received threats against themselves, their family and their church.
- ✝ That the churches will be able to balance security awareness and being welcoming to strangers.
- ✝ Thanks for the growing number of churches across the country who have a real desire to reach out with God’s love into their communities, to address their needs in a wholistic way.
- ✝ For those leaders who have a concern to bring about forgiveness and reconciliation in their churches and communities.
- ✝ For wisdom for Christian leaders involved in the constitution writing process.
- ✝ For the continued growth of the church, in both numbers and maturity, and for the reaching of the gospel into un-reached areas.