

CALL TO PRAYER

SEPTEMBER 2022



WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

On July 21, Rocky Mountain District Superintendent Jonathan Wiggins shared the following testimony of answered prayer in the district's newsletter:

Dear Friends,

Thank you for praying for Paul Sponheim, pastor of Richey (Montana) Alliance Church, and his wife, Cindy. On Saturday, June 25, an alert was sent out to the district family to pray for Paul and his family as lymphoma had returned a third time to his body. Paul underwent one round of chemo to halt the growth of this aggressive cancer, and appointments were scheduled at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, to prepare for a CAR T-cell immunotherapy treatment regimen.

A follow-up PET scan was done this past Wednesday. Yesterday (Thursday), Paul and Cindy received the incredible news that not only had the growth of the cancer been halted but also that there was no active cancer found in Paul's body at all!

All the specialists in this type of treatment at the Mayo Clinic are astounded! Praise the Lord for His mercy and answered prayer! Paul will still undergo the final five cycles of chemo—two days

every three weeks—as a precaution. These can be done in Montana rather than Minnesota.

Paul and Cindy rejoice at this news and wanted to share it with you, their praying friends. Paul said, "It is clear to me that God has been at work in my body—doing what the medical professionals did not plan nor expect to see. . . I still have a way to go for full recovery, but I am feeling better than I have since mid-May. Thank you for your love and prayers. Please continue to pray for me during these next months of chemo treatments—both for strength and opportunities and the right, gracious words to share to bring glory to God."

It is right and good for us to stand with one another in prayer. It is great to rejoice when we hear God has answered the prayers of His people and is using it for His glory! Please continue to pray for Paul, Cindy, their family, and the Richey Alliance Church family.

Editor's note: At this writing, Paul is continuing his treatment and doing very well. When Jonathan spoke to him recently, Paul sounded better than ever!

TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE VISIT CMALLIANCE.ORG/PRAY.

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URGENT PRAYER ALERT FOR AFRICA

A decision was made by Alliance Missions (AM) leadership and the aXcess regional leadership couple in Africa to temporarily withdraw Alliance international workers (IWs) from a West African country due to ongoing security concerns, specifically in and around the city in which they live.

“We have been closely monitoring the deteriorating security conditions and have concluded that we need to pause, pray, and reflect on how and when future ministry in this location will be possible for our IWs,” the couple says. “As we consider what God is doing and desires to do through various ministries [there], we are praying that this will only be a temporary withdrawal of our personnel. We will monitor and evaluate the security situation and determine if and how ministry engagement will be possible.” At this writing, all Alliance IWs have been able to secure tickets out of the country.

Pray that God will walk with and lead Alliance IWs and leadership during this season. Intercede for needed wisdom, direction, and peace. Please continue to pray for the country’s overall security and for government leaders to have wisdom on how to regain stability in their country and effectively address the different extremist groups in their nation. Pray, too, for local Christians, specifically that God will be their provision and help them respond in a Christ-like manner to the many challenges they are facing.

A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE

Saturday, June 25, marked a tremendous milestone—the kick-off event for the 100th anniversary celebration of the gospel entering Cambodia in 1923. It was held at a huge wedding hall in Phnom Penh, the nation’s capital, with about 2,500 Christians in attendance. There were also several non-Christian government officials who attended. My wife, Chris, and I shared a meal with them afterward and had good opportunities to share the gospel. Several seemed actively engaged and curious . . . pray for this to bear fruit.

The event included video testimonies from some of the older leaders, powerful worship, and a pervading sense of joy within the broader Cambodian Christian community over how the Lord has been faithful to build His Church in Cambodia. This was all in preparation for much larger celebrations that will be held January 26–28, 2023, when we are hoping for up to 30,000 people to participate.

Praise God that Alliance international workers can be present in this country where the prime minister has been open to Christians and, pre-COVID, hosted a big dinner for them every year; 5,000 Christian leaders regularly attended these events. The prime minister also has an ordained C&MA pastor on his Council of Ministers. We are thankful for the Lord’s favor; pray that these relationships will have lasting Kingdom impact.

| by Dave Manfred, an aXcess worker serving with
| The Alliance in Cambodia

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