

## OUR MISSIONARY FAMILY

▶ **Janet Baker**, one of our missionary retirees, has informed us that she has moved. Her new address is Lot #218, 4901 E. State Highway 107, Edinburg, TX 78542. Please keep Janet in prayer as she has been suffering from chronic health problems.

▶ Our missionaries serving in **Papua New Guinea** continue to request prayer for a dangerous situation at the airport used by missionary pilots in the Ukarumpa area. On October 31<sup>st</sup> a security guard was shot and killed. This is the first time violence has been used. Please keep this situation in prayer as the perpetrator has not been caught as of this writing. Pray for the safety of the missionary families, and that the situation will be resolved soon, without further bloodshed.

▶ **Ken Sears** will be returning to the Ukraine at the end of this month. He will again be teaching future church leaders at Zaporozhye Bible College, and preaching in various churches. Pray for safe and uneventful travel (i.e., that his luggage arrives with him!)

▶ **Jane Heck** is planning to return to Belize briefly over Christmas vacation to close up her house there. Jane will remain in the USA at least through June to continue caring for her parents. Please keep her in prayer regarding future plans.

▶ **Joe Toy** thanks everyone who participated in making and stuffing Christmas stockings for him to distribute to needy inner city children. If you would like to learn more about this project, contact Joe at [Oamphilly@aol.com](mailto:Oamphilly@aol.com). or go to the GMC website at [www.ecglobal.org](http://www.ecglobal.org) and click on the Project Booklet tab.

▶ Please keep all our missionary families in prayer, as many will not be able to celebrate the holidays with loved ones due to distance and the cost of plane tickets. Pray especially that all the Missionary Kids who are traveling home from college to be with family have safe flights and a good reunion with their families.



**GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION**  
OF THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

100 West Park Ave, Myerstown PA 17067 • phone 717.866.7584 • fax 717.866.7383



## THE INCONVENIENT CHRIST

**B**abies come when they want to; aside from having a C-section, it's pretty hard to plan the actual arrival. The doctor may give an approximate time, but very few babies are delivered on their due date. I'm sure if Mary could have planned the arrival of her first child, it would not have been at the end of a long and tiring trip out of town, to wind up giving birth in the area where the animals were kept. Yet that is where the Savior of all humanity made His earthly arrival; bloody, bawling, and lying in a food trough. How inconvenient!

Throughout his ministry, Jesus was a gadfly towards the Jewish hierarchy. He would openly challenge their hypocrisy and teach the people what God had truly said. The Pharisees thought they had taken care of the problem when they arranged for Jesus' crucifixion. They didn't count on him rising from the grave. How inconvenient!

Jesus the Christ continues to intrude into our lives at inconvenient times. When we feel comfortable and settled in our churches, He whispers "I died for everyone; go tell others about me." When we have our lives all planned, He says "I have a better way; come follow me."

It may never seem to be convenient to live our lives totally sold out to Christ, but if we don't, it will be very inconvenient for us when He returns and we have to give an accounting of how we used the time and talents Christ gave us.

*"...for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ...But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you... I THESSALONIANS 5: 2, 4*

—Pat Strain

DECEMBER PRAYER CALENDAR INSIDE

EMPOWERING NATIONAL CHURCHES  
• FACILITATING MISSIONS WORKERS • MINISTERING TO  
THE MARGINALIZED • CREATING WORLD CHRISTIANS



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 <b>HERE AND THERE - Randy Sizemore</b>	29	30	1 <b>Nov. 29-Dec. 3</b> - Attending OMSC Seminar in CT for Missions Executives	2	3	4
			<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Rev. William Araya - field leader of the EC Church of Costa Rica	Rev. Lalrosiem Songate - General Director of the EC Church of India	Rev. Jack Murray - 'officially' retired in CA	Kitty Miller - working with SIL in Thailand
5	6 - Sue Haglund	7	8	9	10	11 <b>Dec 11-12</b> - Travel to and speak at Rosedale EC, Baltimore, MD
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Rev. Nobuo Abe, field director of the EC Church of Japan	Jamie & Anita Farr - serving with Wycliffe at headquarters	Dan Dixon - serving at Rift Valley Academy in Kenya	Jane Heck - temporary return to Belize to close up her house	Dana Abernethy - MMS Aviation in OH	Jeremy Kunkel - EMI - doing drafting work for mission organizations	Mateo and Mai Lou Garcia - church planters in Mexico
12	13 - Rev. Dan Moury (c)	14	15	16	17	18 <b>Dec 18</b> - Allentown New Bethany - Christmas meal
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Rev. Matthew Gueh - field director of the EC Church of Liberia	Nick & Lisa Lakatos - language training in Costa Rica	Becky Moser - retiree in AZ	Joe Toy - distribution of Christmas stockings to inner city children	Lori Pfeffer - serving with BCM in Lehigh Valley, PA	Rev. Th. Janga, field leader of the EC Church of Nepal	Brian & Missy Wagner - teachers at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya
19 <b>Dec 19</b> - Speak in a.m. at Allentown New Bethany and Arabic Living churches	20	21	22	23 <b>Dec 23</b> - Church Center office Christmas party	24	25 <b>Dec 24-27</b> - Church Center closed - Christmas holiday
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Your offering today will help the Global Ministries office with costs	Ron & Brenda Anderson - ministering to ECMI missionaries in Europe	Dave & Celia Dick - resource person for OMS international fields	Randy & Chris Amberman - training and encouraging Navajo church leaders	Chris & Deb Bowers - serving in PNG as pilot and teacher; safety issues	Remember all those traveling over holidays to be with family, especially MK's	"The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us." Welcome, Messiah!
26	27	28	29	30 <b>Dec 28- Jan 1</b> - Vacation	31	<b>JANUARY BIRTHDAYS</b> January 2 - Jim Farr January 3 - Lamar Stoltzfus January 5 - Jim Stahl January 8 - Celia Dick January 10 - Dan Wills January 11(1994) - Alyssa Stoltzfus January 13 (1989) - Mark Anderson
<b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Rev. Elias Martinez - field leader of EC Church of Mexico	John & Carolyn Miller - working on a recording of Bru New Testament	Kurt & Nancy Graff - recruiting & training missionaries for Café 104	Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus - teachers at Rift Valley Academy, Kenya	Ed & Val Schubert - working with a children's home in Honduras	Look forward to new opportunities to share Christ with others	* INDICATES RETIREE (c) INDICATES CANDIDATE + INDICATES MISSIONS ASSOCIATE