

PRAYER MENU
2007, No. 6

Thank God for actions taken by **Bread for the World**, a nationwide Christian movement that seeks justice for the world's hungry people by lobbying our nation's decision makers. Pray for the work of Tammy Walhof and others who promote Bread for the World and its efforts to feed the hungry.

- **HOSTAGES.** Please pray for the South Korean's being held hostage by the Taliban in Afghanistan. They are members of a medical mission team from Saemmul Presbyterian Church in Korea. Two of them have already been killed. Pray that they might be released, and that Afghanistan might become a place of justice and peace.
- **HEALTH INSURANCE.** Please pray for those who do not have adequate health insurance. About 41.2 million Americans - including about 8 million children - do not have any health insurance. Pray that economic and political conditions might change so that all people might be able to receive the medical care they stand in need of. (www.healthtogether.org)
- **DARFUR.** Pray for the Darfur region of Sudan, that the violence might come to an end, and that the 2 million refugees might be able to return to their homes to rebuild. Pray also for the many missionaries and aid workers in Africa...pray that the peace and justice of Christ's Kingdom might firmly be established.
- **SUN-COOKERS.** Darfur refugee women are learning to cook with sun-cookers instead of wood. Gathering wood outside of the camps exposes gatherers to rapists, who prey on defenseless women. The solar cooker idea, now supported by a variety of activist groups, came from members of the Jewish World Watch. Over 6,000 cookers (costing about \$30 each) have been delivered to the camps and 10,000 more are on the way. So long as the international community can get food to the camps, cooking in the desert sun is a lifesaver. (CC 8-13-07) Thank God for this simple lifesaving devise.
- **MIDDLE EAST.** Pray for peace in the Middle East. Pray that the Shia and Sunni populations of Iraq might find political and social unity for the sake of peace and justice. Pray that the Israeli and Palestinian conflict might finally have a peaceful resolution so the violence might end, and both sides find peace and justice.
- **THE VULNERABLE.** Pray for the respect and dignity of human life in our country. For the unborn, for the elderly, for the poor, for those in prison, for those suffering from economic oppression, for those suffering from illnesses and disease, for those with physical and mental disabilities...pray that our country might become a place that values all life...and sees every single human person as made in the image of God.
- **ISLAM I.** Recently Turkey held elections in which the secular government was threatened by the election to a pro-Islamic leader. This may prevent Turkey from joining the European Union, which is fearful of a drift towards Islamic law. Under secularist law, for example, women are forbidden to wear the Hijab (head-to-foot

cover) in public. If the country goes Islamic, this law may be reversed. (CC 8-13-07) Pray for a Christian witness in Turkey.

- ISLAM II. The skyline is changing in Europe. Where one once saw Cathedral spires and crosses, there are now, in many cities, Muslim minarets that dwarf the spires. Fierce debate is going on in major cities in German, Spain, and Holland, because Muslim communities are taking over the culture and landscape. As the Christian influence in Europe dwindles, Muslims fill the void. (CC 8-13-07) Pray for Christian revival in Europe.
- CYCLONE VICTIMS. In mid-June, a cyclone battered the Southwest coast of Pakistan along the Gulf of Oman, leaving 1.5 million homeless. Weeks of nearly constant and dangerous rains have destroyed dams and houses, flooded cities, and displaced families. International aid organizations, including the CRWRC, are responding with needed shelter, food, medicine, blankets, and daily necessities. (CRC News Service, 8-14-07) Pray for survivors of the Pakistan cyclone and those trying to help.
- EARTH QUAKE. CRWRC is partnering with the National Evangelical Council of Peruvian Churches (CONEP) and other disaster organizations to supply emergency food and non-food items that are scheduled to reach victims early this week, including maize flour, beans, blankets, and cooking items. (CRC News, 8-21-07) Pray for the CRWRC and the CONEP as they help the Peruvian people recover.
- PERSECUTION. A once protected—and ancient—Christian community in Egypt faces new threats. There are 6-11 million Coptic Christians in the Middle East who have lived in relative calm until recently. There now have been arrests made on trumped up charges in Egypt, and one man was thrown out of a 6th story window to his death. Converts to Christianity are special targets of a radical Muslim minority in Egypt and a hands-off government. (World 8-25-07) Remember persecuted Christians in prayer.
- SEX TRADE. Rahab Ministries is a Christian organization that ministers to women prostitutes in the Far East, primarily in Bangkok, Thailand, where sex trade is rampant. “Sex tourism,” as it is called, garners billions of dollars a year in Thailand. Rahab members venture into sex clubs to talk with girls who service the clubs. Whenever possible, girls are taken to a shelter and offered jobs and treatment. (World 8-25-07) Pray for women forced into slavery and for Rahab Ministries.
- WAR & VIOLENCE. Every day we are reminded of the war in Iraq and violent crimes in our own country. Television and other media depict so much violence that we are no longer shocked when bombs kill hundreds at a time. Movies and video games simply add to our violent society. Pray for a world where violence is rare and unusual; pray for Christ’s return and universal peace.

We urge you to include items from the PRAYER MENU in family and personal devotions. You may contribute to the menu by giving a news clip of concern to one of our committee members: Diana Gonzalez, Jerry & Shirley Isakson, Jim Koldenhoven, Jason & Tammy Lief, Jim & Thea Mouw, Lauren & Barb Ochsner, Jo Vander Werf, John Wesselius (First CRC), or Christine Koops, James Mahaffy, Lynne Bloemendaal, Scott Van Essen, Brent Kooiman, Stephanie Dykshorn (Faith CRC).