



BASHANG

Please pray for us as we plan to work with the District Public Health Office in maternal and neonatal health and also as we explore the possibilities of our involvement in this area to improve the health situation of the mothers and children of Nepal.

DHADING

We thank God for giving us local partners through which we can reach the community better. Pray for us as we train and facilitate our partners in various areas.

DOTI

Our staff team would value continuing prayer for all their hard work in meeting the needs of the target group. Pray for us as we participate in an open office training, which will be given by the ICT team.

MUGU

Pray for our team as we go into the process of annual reviews with our partners and also as we move ahead with God's wisdom in selecting new partners.

RUKUM

We give thanks that most of our partner organisations have been implementing community focused programmes. Pray that cluster officers will be able to effectively monitor the progress and also coach the partners where they need help.

RUPANDEHI

Many migrant workers travel back home to Rupandehi from India in the month of October to be with their family to celebrate *Dashain*, a major Nepali festival. This is both a time of family reunion as well as a time of great risk for the spread of HIV infection as many of them return infected and transmit it to their wives and sometimes inevitably to newborns. Pray for the situation of HIV and AIDS and for these workers to live a safe life in the cities where they work.

SUNSARI

Some of our staff are involved in coaching and monitoring the work carried out by partners in the communities. Please pray for the wisdom they need as they guide the partners in meeting their objectives.

Dear Friends,

This is the first quarterly prayer update since Dr Mark Galpin formally commenced as UMN's new Executive Director. The board is delighted to have Mark in this role and we thank God for the person he is and for bringing him to us.

We thank God for Mark's journey so far - for his early life in East Africa, his background in agriculture and community development, and the experience of living with his family and working with IN4 in Pokhara and Nepalgunj. We thank God for Mark's family too - wife Liz and children Joshua and Miriam. We thank God for leading them to Nepal and to UMN at this time and pray for them as they settle into life in Kathmandu.

We pray that God will continue to give Mark all the wisdom, skills, insights and grace that he needs to serve Him in this challenging role with UMN and that he and his family will remain strong in their faith, knowing Christ's love. Let's also pray for good relationships with those Mark will be working with, including UMN leadership team and staff, partner organisations in Nepal, supporting partners, peer organisations, Government of Nepal and those in Nepal who UMN seeks to serve. Please keep the Galpin family in your prayers, as well as UMN as it enters an exciting new phase.

Jane Furniss
UMN Acting Chairperson

our hearts cry...

A deadly diarrhoea epidemic has hit some western districts of Nepal. Rukum, Jajarkot and Dadeldhura are affected badly. Even otherwise these districts fall under the most deprived of all districts of Nepal. As we write this report, the death toll from these districts has already reached about 200. Ministries of Health and Population along with a number of INGOs have rushed medicines and medical personnel to the affected areas but the situation looks as challenging as when it first started. Surkhet district now seems to have come under its shadow.

One family of seven survived the disease, but at the cost of all that they had. "I lost all my property in the course of treating seven members of my family" says Prem Malla of Rukum, "I saved them from the deadly diarrhoea but now I have the challenge of lack of food, money and shelter".

Thirteen year old Bagmati Devi of Rukum has been left to fend for herself and five younger siblings, the youngest being a nine month old baby. "Our parents used to feed us, there is nobody to feed us now, I have no idea how to look after my brothers and sisters".

UMN, with its partner in Rukum is doing its best to disseminate adequate information through leaflets and local FM stations on precautionary steps to take to combat the problem.

Would you please pray for these unfortunate people in distress and for the families who have lost their dear ones.

Pray for the Finance Team with the extra workload that comes at the end of the financial year and the preparation of the annual accounts by the end of September.

Please give thanks for Sagun Tamrakar who has joined the Finance Team in the new post of Finance Controller. Please also pray for ongoing recruitment as the post of Finance Director will be vacant from January 2010.

UMN has appointed a new Lead Advisor for Organisational Development. Pray that his six month orientation into this role will be fruitful and stimulating for him.

Pray for the partnership processes, ongoing programmes and proposals from all 70 partners of UMN as they learn how to be efficient and effective in serving their communities in many areas of development work. Good relationships between the UMN cluster staff and the local partners is crucial to these processes.

Pray that Technical Advisors are sufficiently able to give appropriate input and that the programmes address the pressing needs of their target communities.

Praise God that we were able to fill some vacant posts as some Technical Advisors had left UMN.

Give thanks for a number of expatriates joining the UMN orientation programme in August.

Please pray for wisdom from God as we recruit Nepali and expatriate staff in many key posts.

Give thanks for the number of new doctors who have come to work at Tansen hospital.

We praise God for answered prayers. Disaster Management and Enterprise Development works have got full funding to implement their programmes in the year 2009/10. Please pray for Food Sovereignty and Education as their funding proposals are being processed.

Prayers for specific people

Peter Quesenberry, currently the Chair of UMN Board needs special prayers at this time. Peter has had a rare blood disorder for a number of years, and this disorder has led to a type of cancer called Lymphoma. We urge everyone to join in continuous prayer for Peter, his wife Mary and their children at this time. "Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Pray for Mark Galpin as he meets with some supporting partners and donors in Europe, and for the family (Liz, Josh and Miri) as they have a brief holiday together in October.

Pray for the Galpin Family and David and Ann McConkey as they represent UMN at the European Nepal Conference from 23rd – 25th October.

Pray that many would be encouraged and inspired through

this conference and by what God is doing among Nepali's in Nepal and across the world

Please pray for the new staff settling in to their support roles for clusters. Ragnhild Nystrom joins the team in August as Education Advisor, and we thank the Lord for bringing her to UMN.

Also pray for the team spirit of the Nepalgunj team that they will be able to feel like a team even though their jobs mean that they are travelling to different places all the time.



'Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat – for he grants sleep to those he loves.' Psalm 127:1-2

Over these coming months, as we continue to develop our plans for UMN's future strategy, we must remember that this is God's work, first and foremost. We want to seek God's will, discern His plans for UMN and develop a strategy that helps us outwork His vision for the people of Nepal. During this next period, strategic directions will emerge that need to be explored, understood and tested against the word of God. This will be a challenging time for the Leadership team and those involved in shaping the future, pray for wisdom and God's guidance for all involved in this crucial task. Pray that the new strategy will inspire us in our work and will be right for the organisation at this point in UMN's and Nepal's history.



We are blessed with a beautiful garden at UMN headquarters.

**How many are your works,
O LORD!
In wisdom you made them all.**

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