**Global Mission Worker – Update for PCI Ministers**

**7 October 2020**

As we continue to navigate how to live and work in this COVID-19 world this is a brief update on PCI’s GMWs and their current situation.

**Brazil:** Naomi **Keefe** continues to reside in her overseas location of Olinda. She was unable to travel to Ireland for deputation this Autumn but has produced a ‘deputation video’ which is available upon request from the Mission Department for PCI ministers only. Brazil continues to experience high levels of coronavirus infection and deaths.

**Kenya:** Stephen **Cowan** remained in Tuum for many months, only recently moving out of the area for the first time. Angelina and Annissa **Cowan** have to remain in Northern Ireland until at least the end of this year as all schools in Kenya are likely to remain closed for the rest of this calendar year.

The national closure of schools has also affected Gary, Mary and Samuel **Reid**. Samuel’s school is continuing to provide on-line teaching. Both families hope to return to Kenya for the start of the new term in January 2021.

Naomi, Thomas, Aaron and Silas **Leremore** have moved out of Nairobi and are currently living up north in Maralal. Naomi is continuing to juggle working from home with home schooling in this new location.

**Malawi:** Volker, Jinhyeog, Micha and Lukas **Glissmann** are in Blantyre. Lina has started her course in the UK at the University of York. In mid-September she arrived safely into the UK, giving her enough time to complete a period of quarantine before commencing her first-year studies. Volker was unable to accompany her, nor was he able come to Ireland for deputation in the autumn.

**Nepal:** Peter, Valerie, Joel and Erin **Lockwood** are currently in Kathmandu. United Mission to Nepal (UMN) have limited the number of staff members working from the UMN office building resulting in the family operating from home. National Schools in Nepal remain closed and International Schools are teaching online. Conor **Lockwood** has returned to Northern Ireland where he will continue his schooling online.

In late June, Peter **Fleming** returned to join Jayne **Fleming** in their family home in Northern Ireland. Both have been working from home, Jayne teaching her Kathmandu International Study Centre (KISC) students on-line and Peter in his role with UMN.

**Portugal:** James, Heather, and Lucy **Cochrane** are in Porto. They are re-engaging with the congregation in the building for Sunday worship and working from home as well as teaching and encouraging Lucy in her home schooling. Alana has returned to her studies in Northern Ireland.

Chris, Rachel, Ezra and Abigail **Humphries** are also in Porto. They are continuing with language learning and taking up ministry roles within the congregation as social distancing regulations allow.

**Romania:** Csaba, Ilona, and Carissa **Veres** are in Cluj. Csaba and Ilona are combining working from home with appropriate social distancing outreach among the Roma people in Mera (Ilona) and with the Diakonia (Csaba). They are supporting Carissa with her online schooling. Jazmin has returned to her university studies in Northern Ireland.

**Spain:** Derek, Jane, Gabriela and Luka **French** are in Bilbao. The situation in Bilbao continues to be restricted as the area is experiencing high levels of coronavirus infection, so much of their work and the children’s schooling continues from their home. This continues to be challenging.

**Zambia:** Diane **Cusick** is in Lusaka. Schools are slowly re-opening in Zambia allowing Diane to begin to resume some of her contact with teachers and encourage their ongoing training and development of pre-school materials and resources. The main part of her work continues to be done from her home base.

**UK:**  Edwin and Anne **Kibathi** are in London. They are combining working from home with appropriate socially distanced contact with their congregation.