

St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church

Our Vision: Transforming lives through a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Our Mission</u>: To share Christ's love and His Word with our community and the world through Christ-centered outreach, worship, prayer, and biblical study.

VOLUME 67 NUMBER 9

The Chatter

SEPTEMBER 2024

BOUNDARIES...WE NEED THEM!

If there's a common problem in our society today, it is the lack of boundaries - both moral and temporal. Whether it's open borders, cashless bail, free drugs for drug users or teaching and supporting gender fluidity in children, allowing them to identify as the opposite sex or even as a specific animal in schools, these all reflect a lack of temporal boundaries. Easy and unrestricted abortion as well as allowing children to receive medical intervention to change their physical sexual identity without parental consent are two stark examples of no moral boundaries. So too is the acceptance of same sex marriage endorsed by the state thereby granting such couples the ability to adopt and raise children. Some say you can't legislate morality! This of course is nonsense. The purpose of all law is to reflect what a society deems right or wrong. So all law in a general sense involves morality. True morality is not afraid to say "no' and hold people accountable for their actions.

Of course, the question remains, what makes something moral? In other words, who or what ultimately determines what is right or wrong? GOD! As the Creator of everything (**Gen. 1:1**) and Father of everyone (**Eph. 4:6**) God alone has given us the true boundaries for living. Those boundaries are found in His Word, the Holy Bible, and were fully expressed in and by His Son, the Living Word, Jesus Christ. As followers of Christ, we are called to stay within the boundaries of His Word *regardless of what the culture and society says and does!* It should not surprise us that **the longest psalm in the Bible is Psalm 119**. What is the theme of this psalm? **Living according to the boundaries of God's Word - His commandments, His law, and His character!** It's the only road in life that leads to true fulfillment and blessing. This psalm was so important that it was organized according to the Hebrew alphabet. I encourage everyone to include Psalm 119 in your daily devotions and prayers. It's wisdom helps prepare us be the Church of Jesus Christ!

Continued on Page 2

St. Bart's Web Information www.stbartston.org
Also see our Facebook page for more!



St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church 2368 Eggert Road Tonawanda, NY 14150 Phone: (716) 831-1777

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In fact, the New Testament Greek word for church, "ekklesia" literally means the "called out ones." We have been called out of darkness into God's marvelous light! (1 Pet. 2:9). But we haven't just been called out of the darkness of sin, we are now are called to go back into the darkness of this world with the light of Jesus! And we reflect the light of Jesus through our attitude, words, and actions. This not only means on an individual level but also corporately as the Body of Christ. We are called to be obedient to God's Word together in community, learning and then witnessing together as the Body of Christ.

My challenge for all our members in the next few months is to commit to four "calls." The first is the call to keep the Sabbath Holy and worship weekly with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. The second is to attend at least once our monthly prayer service held every third Thursday from 7-8 PM as we pray for our church, community, nation, and world. With a major election only two months away, the call to prayer is ever more urgent. Third, please join my Friday Night Bible Study series beginning September 27 and continuing through November 1. The topic will be "Engaging the Culture with the Gospel." The study will look at biblical and practical ways we can communicate the good news of Jesus to those around us in any context as well as how we can constructively address the secular and godless worldview that pervades our society. I will be team teaching this study with Deacon Nick Sluyter, who is on staff with the ministry Ratio Christi ("Reason for Christ") at Buffalo State College. Finally, please vote! Here in New York State we will be voting on Prop 1 which is the ratification of the so-called Equal Rights Amendment to the New York State Constitution. If approved it will make both unrestricted abortion and the ability for children to change their physical sexual identity constitutional rights. In both instances parents will have no legal say in the matter! In other words, New York State will have more power over children than their parents. I will be providing more information on what this amendment actually enables and the danger it presents to religious liberty and parental rights.

I began this message with the truth that we need boundaries. They are God-ordained and written in His Word and exemplified by His Son Jesus Christ. Our call is to make sure we are living within the boundaries of God's Kingdom and to stand for those boundaries no matter what. I look forward to joining with you in the weeks ahead as we continue to engage our world with the Gospel!

Yours in Christ, Father Ward

VESTRY

In a special meeting, the vestry met on August 6, 2024. Discussion items included:

<u>Application for Membership into Diocese of Christ Our Hope</u>: We have been provisionally accepted into the diocese and will be formally accepted at the Nov. 6-9 Diocesan Assembly in Roanoke, VA.

Tote Bags: 300 St. Bartholomew's tote bags have been made. They will sell for \$3 each. Look for them in the Fr. Amend Hall or stop in to the office to purchase one.

<u>Clothing Drive:</u> Dn. Gary Wisniewski reported it was a huge success. 11 boxes, weighing 150 lbs., of children's clothing was sent to Florida. Our Sudanese congregation was able to be helped.

The Sudanese community in Rochester and Syracuse were also aided. 15 boxes were also given to the Sheridan Parkside community.

The box is still out for donations.

Flooding in Myanmar (formerly Burma): It was unanimously approved to donate \$2,500 towards the devastation and destruction caused by severe floods in this area. The ARDA (Anglican Relief and Development Fund) is spearheading efforts to send financial support to the Anglican Church there.

<u>Sudanese Bishop Abraham Nhial from the Diocese of Aiwel will visit Sunday, September 15th</u>

DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER
CHATTER is Tuesday, September 17.
Thank you.



PRAYER MINISTRY

PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

<u>Prayer Requests</u> – If you, your family and/or your friends are in need of prayer there are prayer request cards in the pews and at the front church entrance. They can be deposited in the church box at the front entrance. They are picked up twice a week. Also, you can request prayers online through our website under the tab "Parish Life" or this link: https://www.stbartston.org/prayer-requests

<u>Intercessory Prayer</u> – Sundays at the 10 AM service during the ministration of communion. See the weekly bulletin for dates. Also, look for the <u>lavender</u> Intercessory Prayer tags on people willing to pray with/for you.

If you are in need of some quiet time the <u>Prayer Room</u> is open daily during office hours (from 9 am till 3pm) and can be used before, during or after the weekly Saturday and Sunday services.

When you have had <u>Prayers Answered</u> and, if you would like to (confidentially) share them with us, you can do that by dropping us a note in the prayer box at the church entrance. We would love to hear from you.

We'll never know the full effect of our prayers this side of heaven. But Scripture gives us this counsel: "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" (Colossians 4:2). When Paul penned those words to believers in the small city of Colossae, he also asked for prayer himself so that God would "open a door" for his message wherever he went (v. 3).

Sometimes we may think, *I don't have the spiritual gift of prayer*. But of all the spiritual gifts listed in the Bible, prayer isn't among them. Perhaps this is because God longs for each of us to pray faithfully, so that we may see what only He can do.

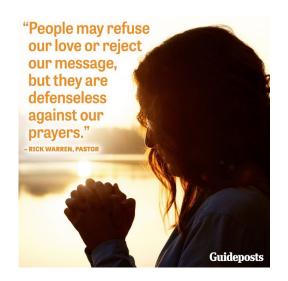
How have you benefited from the prayers of others? Whom are you praying for today?

Father, thank You that You want to hear from me! Please help me to treasure the opportunity to talk to You and pray for others each day.

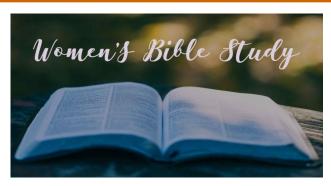
By: James Banks, ODB

"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

- Max Lucado



BIBLE STUDIES



Women's Tuesday Evening Bible Study

meets at 6:30 pm every other Tuesday. They are continuing their study of the Gospel of John. September meetings are the 10th and 24th.

See Louise Jones for more information.

Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

meets at 10:30 am every Wednesday. Their first meeting is September 11. See Sharon Scott for more information.



Men's Discipleship Group

meets every Tuesday evening, 6:30pm starting September 10. Contact John Krull for more information.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please keep those from our Parish Family who are serving our country in the Military in your prayers. Please let the church office know if there is anyone that should be added to or removed from this prayer list.

Virginia Boy- Navy
James Kerins- Army
Sean MacLeay-Navy
Matthew Miller- Army
Matthew Prohaska- Air Force
Andrew Rebl- Army

FOOD PANTRY:

28 bags and boxes of food were donated in August. Remember that we collect for the Food Pantry the first weekend of every month. NIACAP is so appreciative of our donations. Please remember that they also can use personal care items, paper products and soap, etc.. Let's continue to show them our generosity. Thank you.



Men's Breakfast

9ROOP

will be Saturday, September 21st at 9:00 am. All men are welcome. Bring a Family member Friend or Neighbor. If you're interested in helping prepare the food, we start at 7:30 am.



With Fall upon us, we will resume our

SOUP PROGRAM

for those in the congregation who need a meal due to the birth of a child, a serious illness, or death



in the family. If you can make soup for our freezer, it would be greatly appreciated! PLEASE see or call Brenda Wisz for details! (Her phone number is in the directory).



GriefShare

starts Saturday, September 21st, 2-4pm in the Youth Room at St. Bartholomew's.

Sign up on the GriefShare website or talk to Al and Linda Matuch for more information.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Movie Night!

Friday, September 6th @ 6 p.m.

All are welcome to attend! Pizza and popcorn will be provided

Please sign up in the Fr. Amend Hall if you plan to attend, so we can order food accordingly.

Don't you just LOVE the Sunday Morning COFFEE HOURS?

If you do (and I know you do!!) please consider donating some cookies, coffee cakes, donuts, crackers, pretzels... donate whatever you would like to see on the table!!!!

If everyone pitches in on occasion, it is not a burden to a select few. And remember to THANK the People that serve you each week!!



Sign-up to Serve

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

July Clothing drive update.

To St. Dunstan's Anglican Church, Florida, we mailed 11 boxes (just over 150 pounds) of new and used infant, children and teen clothing.

We blessed the Sudanese for 5 weeks. We left each Saturday after sorting and hanging and more sorting.

And we were overwhelmed by the generosity of clothing that was donated over these weeks.

There were weeks when we did not have enough room to sort and display all of the clothing and left bags and boxes unsorted under tables and chairs.

When we returned on Tuesday mornings we were amazed at the amount of clothing that the Sudanese had taken for them selves and the Sudanese communities in Buffalo and Rochester. Fr. Eisa Kodi and Fr. Suleiman were very thankful for all that they received.

Finally, this past Thursday, Kathryn Napoli (Pastor Eric's wife from Amherst Baptist Church) stopped by church and took the remaining 15 boxes of clothing, shoes and purses.

She will sort and distribute this to the needs of the Sheridan Parkside Life Center and the remainder that she does not have room for she will donate to the Buffalo City Mission.

Thank you to those who showed up on Tuesdays and Saturdays and helped sort hang and fellowship with us.

And lastly to all of St Bart's for making this a blessing to so many and blessings to others that we may never know about.

Thank you!

Peace, love and Joy in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Dcn. Gary and Elaine





Music Notes from Margaret Bukkosy September 2024 SEPTEMBER CHOIR SCHEDULES

Hello everyone! The September rehearsal and singing schedules are on the calendar enclosed in this edition of "The Chatter." We are looking forward to a wonderful season praising God with our voices. Please join us! Questions? Suggestions? Please do not hesitate to contact me.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT INFORMATION (ALREADY!!!)

I know it is only September, but I want to mention that the Adult, Cherub, and Children's choirs will be preparing an extra-special Christmas story utilizing a cantata entitled "Night of the Father's Love" composed by contemporary composer Pepper Choplin and sung by the Adult Choir. Deacon Jim Kibby is preparing the script, which will mesh a Children's Musical called "A Night for Dancing" sung by the Cherub and Children's Choirs with the adult Cantata. If you want to be a part of this special program, please come to the Adult, Cherub or Children's Choir rehearsals! Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome to join in singing some amazing music! One of my favorites in the cantata is "Angels Are Making Their Rounds." Come and lend your voice to make this a very special Christmas Nativity presentation.

HELP WANTED: CHRISTMAS PAGEANT COSTUMES FOR KIDS

As we all know, Halloween costumes are already in our stores or will be soon. While we have some lamb costumes, we also need costumes for donkeys, cows, lions, a hawk and a dove for a special part of our pageant which will involve the children. If you happen to see something that would work, we would appreciate it if you would purchase it and donate it to our costume closet. We also need one "otherworldly" costume for one child. Need more information about this unusual costume? Contact Deacon Jim Kibby!!! Multiples of any of the animals are not a problem, but we need a mixture of small, medium and large children's sizes as well as small adult sizes for the older kids.

Some of these animal/bird costumes may not be available as Halloween costumes and some head pieces will need to be crafted by hand. I purchased an easy Simplicity costume pattern collection that can be used as a basis to make these. If you have the time and the interest to craft head pieces only, please let me or Liz Burkett know. We can help with purchases for fabric and other items! Some sewing will be required. Thank you in advance for your help!





NY Connects Your Link to Long Term Services and Supports

You have questions.

NY Connects is here to help you find answers



NY Connects is your resource for information regarding long term services and supports or older adults and individuals with disabilities of all ages.

This is a FREE service that can link you to free health insurance counseling, activities, transportation, meal delivery, free fitness classes and more!

Call us today!

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WE CAN HELP WITH:

- Applications for Benefits and Entitlements (HEAP, Medicaid/Medicare, SNAP, Temporary Assistance, etc.)
- Health Insurance Counseling and Assistance
- Disability Support and Services
- Child Services
- Veteran Services
- Mental Health Services
- Caregiver Support
- Homecare
- Home-delivered Meals
- Health & Wellness
- Housing Information
- & MUCH MORE!!!

CASE MANAGEMENT

- Transportation
- Home Care
- · Family Caregiver Assistance
- Respite
- & more!

Reach out to us today and let us help you navigate the many programs and services that are available to help you LIVE WELL in Erie County!





CALL OR VISIT US ONLINE TODAY!



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Here at St. Barts our SHINE Children's Program helps bring children closer to Jesus by engaging the whole child's heart, soul, mind and strength

Creative teaching happens in each classroom with high drama Bible lessons, and multi-sensory learning. The children are put into age appropriate groups (PreK-1st, 2nd –3rd, 4th –5th, and 6th-8th, and 9th-12th) where learning happens through fun activities, and interactive games suited to their age level. All the students are on a chronological journey through the Bible, so they can discover and apply all of God's Word to their lives.



The amazing journey of faith and fun is on Sunday Mornings during our 10:00am Services.

Fall classes start on September 8th. For more information and to register go to stbartston.org/childrens-ministry



How to truly live!



Preachers talk about the need to pursue Jesus all the time, but how exactly do we do that? In this 4 week series, we will explore what it means to be in an exciting, dynamic, vulnerable, and real relationship with the Creator of the universe. Join us as we discover how to trust Jesus, surrender to Jesus, think like Jesus, and live a delightful life in Jesus.

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Next Happenings

Wednesdays, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Join us for our regular meetings filled
with engaging lessons and activities
Dinner provided

Friday, September 6th 6:00 pm Unsung Hero Movie

Wednesday, September 11th 6:00 pm Open House

Wednesday, September 25th 6:00 pm Fall Fest Volunteer Meeting

Sunday, September 29th 11:30 am Fall Fest Volunteer Meeting

No YG Meeting Sept. 25thDue to Fall Fest Meeting

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations"

Matthew 28:19a NASB

A Letter From our Director



Liz Burkett

"The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him" – Psalm 37:40 (NIV)

Going back to school can be intimidating. Maybe you're not that excited because you got the hard math teacher. Perhaps you're upset because none of your friends are in your class.

Going back to school can be hard because there are a lot of unknowns. You're not sure how the year will be and what will happen. Often unknowns lead to fear, or being upset about what's to come. That's where believing the best comes in. You can pray and believe God that this year is going to be a good year for you. You can ask God to help you each step of the way.

Ask Him for wisdom to understand the hard subjects. Go to Him for help when you need friends. You'll be amazed at how much God can help you this year if you'll simply choose to believe the best. God's got good things in store for you this year. Trust Him and ask Him for His help and see how He will help you have a great year.

In Christ, Liz

To hear about all the awesome events coming up this year, please join us for our Open House on September 11th at 6:00pm. This meeting is for youth and their parents to attend so any questions, comments or concerns can be addressed. We will be discussing this year's youth events, the format for Wednesday night, and the parent handbook for the 2024-2025 year. Pizza will be provided. Meeting to start in the Large Fellowship Hall. After the meeting we will have an adult vs teens game competition so be sure to come prepared with your thinking caps and tennis shoes.





On Friday, September 6th at 6:00pm we're gonna kick off the year with an amazing film about the awesome true story of the family of Joel and Luke Smallbone (for KING + COUNTRY's singers) The Film follows David Smallbone as he moves his family from Down Under to the States, searching for a brighter future after his successful music company collapses. With nothing more than their seven children, suitcases, and their love of music, David and his pregnant wife Helen set out to rebuild their lives. Helen's faith stands against all odds and inspires her husband and children to hold onto theirs. Please feel free to bring your family and friends to watch this great film. To watch the trailer for the film, go to https://unsunghero.movie/ We will be having Pizza and Popcorn while we watch the film in Fr. Amend Hall.

On October 25th (6-7:30pm) you're invited to be a part of this year's Fall Fest called To Mars and Beyond. While traveling through six stations, families will participate in interactive games and crafts that help families discover where God's power can take them as they learn how God is always with them. We will need people to help with set up and take down, be station leaders and helpers, welcome table greeters, and so on. Details on the event and sign-up sheets will be available at the volunteer meeting on September 25th at 6:00pm in the large fellowship hall or September 29th at 11:30am. Pick the meeting that works best for you





Save the Date: Friday, November 15th – Buffalo Battleground. Join us for a night of laser tag and arcade fun. We will meet at the event center at 6:00pm and pickup will be at 7:30pm. Cost is \$20 per person and is due by November 10th. Pizza will be provided. A waiver form must be signed in order to participate in this event, so be sure to watch your email for the waiver form.

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September Birthdays

- 1 Angelo Morgante
- 4 Elijah Williams
- 8 Debora Geis, Dn. Gary Wisniewski
- 9 Donald Lonczak, Harry Sam
- 11 Justine McCargo, Evelyn Stacks
- 13 Joann Bush, Jackie Petrillo
- 14 Dawn Glownia, Danielle Loveric,
 Damian Sammarco
- **16 Jocelyn Clontz**
- 17 Rebecca Hillery, Kenule Nordee
- 18 Carter Heacock, Mary Rojek
- 19 Ethan Brown, Mary Gamble,
 Theresa Klotzbir, Alex Morgante
- **20 Lawrence Fenzel. Allison Karelus**
- 21 Thomas Brown Jr., Patrick McAndrews
- 22 Michele Bainbridge, Joseph Rudin
- 23 Jason Fish, Mark Prohaska, Alexis Santillo
- 24 Fr. Russell Amend, Kiersten Lapp,
 Nathan Lapp, Susan Rieman
- 26 Alana Bush, Dominick Fisher
- 27 Wilson Emmons Jr.
- 28 David Dyviniak

- 29 Anita Chadwick, Linda Kisloski
- 30 Bradley Fish, Ryan Fish,
 Kimberly McAndrews,
 Jennifer Moyer, Abbey Sommer



OCTOBER

- 1 Ephraim Bush, Scott Stolz
- 2 Victoria Smith
- 3 Dona Fenzel, Shaw Freeman, Elaine Kyser
- 4 Pamela Fish, Sarah Hillery
- 6 Mary Callea, Andrew Kyser, Benjamin Wojnowski

If you notice a mistake in the birthday list please call (716) 831-1777 or email the secretaries: secretaries@stbartston.org

September Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 & 10 am HE	2 Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	en .	4 9:30 am HE 7pm Adult Choir	ın	6 6pm Movie "Unsung Hero"	7 4:30 pm HE
8 & 10 am HE 10amSunday School starts 11:30am Cherub & Children's Choirs	ത	10 6:30pm Men's Disc, Ladies Bible Study 7pm Vestry Meeting	9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Youth Group 7pm Adult Choir	12	13	14 4:30 pm HE
15 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:30am Cherub & Children's Choirs	16	17 6:30pm Men's Disc.	18 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Youth Group, Contemporary Choir 7pm Adult Choir	19 7pm Prayer Night	20	21 9am Men's Breakfast 2pm GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
22 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:30am Cherub & Children's Choirs	23	24 6:30pm Men's Disc, Ladies Bible Study	25 9:30 am HE 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6pm Fall Fest Vol. Mtg.	26	27 7pm Fr. Ward's Bible Study: "Engaging the Culture with the Gospel"	28 2pm GriefShare 4:30 pm HE
29 8 & 10 am HE 10am SS 11:30am Cherub & Children's Choirs	30					

PERSECUTED CHURCH CALENDAR

YEMEN YEMEN CUBA Pray that Christians without access to get print Bibles into the country and alleviate grow in their faith and find encouragement. S TURKIYE (TURKEY) Pray for Mustafa and Pray for Pastor Emmanuel and his to train for ministry and alleviate the current shortage.	PAKISTAN PAKISTAN Ask the Lord to provide for and encourage impoverished Pakistani Christians who are trapped in indentured servitring	UGANDA · Pray that Christian · ·	5 SOUTHERN MEXICO	9	-
TURKIYE (TURKEY) Pray for Mustafa and Pray for Mustafa and Nazil as they prepare to train for ministry in their church. TURKIYE (TURKEY) Pray for Pastor Emmanuel and his Emmanuel and his Emmanuel and his Emmanuel and his ewife, Legy, who were abducted by Islamists and later released.		converts from Islam will remain firm in their faith when persecuted by their family and community.	Pray for God's protection and blessing on a husband-wife team of front-line workers.	973	CALC.
	BRUNEI Of the 9% who, are Of the 9% who, are Christians in Brunei, nearly all are athnically Chinese, Pray that they will work to reach Muslims.	LIBYA Pray that Libyans will be won to Christ through Ann to Christ through of forgiveness toward her husband's killers.	PHILIPPINES Pray for a Holy Spirit- empowered vision and drive to reach Muslims for Christ.	NEPAL Pray for churches that have been displaced or are having difficulty worshiping due to opposition.	MOROCCO Pray for the strength and encouragement of familie of imprisoned Christians.
ISAEL (INCLUDING LEBANON WEST BANK & GAZA) Pray that members of from the Muslim majority. to the light of Christ.	IRAN Pray that distribut remain u authoriti who wish	48 AFGHANISTAN Pray that families of Christian martyrs will know God's provision and comfort.	The AFGHANISTAN CHINA Pray for ways to Pray that families of Pray for ways to Pray for ways t	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC Pray that Christians trained to help trauma victims will effectively share the hope of Christ.	MOZAMBIQUE Pray for those ministering to displaced and traumatized Christians.
22 24 25 24 25 24 25 25 26 27 27 25 26 27 27 27 28 28 28 29 27 29 27 29 29 27 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29 29	BURKINA FASO Pray for the more than 200 churches that have been closed in the north and east because of the threat of attack.	KAZAKHSTAN Pray that Christian workers will find creative ways to spread the gospel despite many restrictions.	26 EGYPT Pray that members of the Wuslim Brotherhood and the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS) will come to know Christ.	MYANMAR (BURMA) Pray for bold believers who share their faith knowing they will face increased hostility for their witness.	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO Pray that Christians who have fled fighting in the DRC will have all their needs met.
MAURITANIA Pray that the number of believers in the country will double in the next year.	NOTES:	eptembe	L		

vom.c

Martyrs I Martyrs

