# Align

# CONNECT

**April 2020** eu.aimint.org/connect

**CONNECT** is Africa Inland Mission's Magazine & Prayer Diary. It includes a weekly focus on either an unreached people group, an African country or a ministry area. Each week, there's

also links to complementary stories and articles which we trust will encourage you to pray with more insight and praise God for what he is doing among African people.

### WHAT IS TIMO?

For accompanying articles and stories, visit:

k eu.aimint.org/ timoapr2020

# Chris and Beka Bransford both grew up in Africa with a desire to share the good news of Christ with unreached African people groups. Having led teams on the Indian Ocean Islands for 15 years, they are passionate about the role and importance of teams. Their work now includes coordinating AIM's Training in

#### 1 APR • WEDNESDAY

Ministry Outreach (TIMO) teams.

Give thanks for the remarkable ways that God has worked through men and women serving on TIMO teams over the last 35 years. We stand amazed at the way he has used, and continues to use, imperfect people for his perfect plans.

#### 2 APR • THURSDAY

Give thanks that people from the worldwide church continue to be compelled by God's love to go and serve on TIMO teams in some of the most difficult places in Africa. Give thanks for sending churches who generously send missionaries to Africa.

#### 3 APR • FRIDAY

Pray that the Lord of the Harvest would raise up more workers to go and share about all that Jesus has done for them among unreached people groups in Africa. Pray that we would have the joy of seeing more teams established and fruitful in their ministry.

#### **SERVING TOGETHER**

For accompanying articles and stories, visit: • eu.aimint.org/servingapr2020

Steve Orner shares about ministry among the Antakarana following the completion of the TIMO team on the island of Nosy Mitsio in Madagascar.

#### **WEEKENDFOCUS • 4-5 APRIL**

Pray for Petera and Francine, Malagasy missionaries who have joined the work among the Antakarana, as they settle in to life and ministry on Nosy Mitsio and adjust to their new surroundings. Pray that they will work well with the Orners and that both couples would be a support to each other.

#### 6 APR • MONDAY

Pray for the Orner family as they return from home assignment this month. Pray that all the logistical details would go smoothly and they would enjoy reuniting with their community on Nosy Mitsio.

#### 7 APR • TUESDAY

AIM has plans to send a Harvest team to Nosy Mitsio later this year. As well as sharing the gospel with with the Antakarana people in new ways, this team will train missionaries in farming techniques.

#### 8 APR • WEDNESDAY

Petera and Francine are seeking to establish a schools ministry on Nosy Mitsio. Pray that the work they do with young people would plant a hunger for Jesus among the children on Nosy Mitsio.

#### 9 APR • THURSDAY

Pray for church partnerships in the city of Ambilobe. Pray that the believers there would grow a passion to reach the Antakarana people living in their city and a wider vision to reach people who have yet to hear about Jesus.



#### 10 APR • FRIDAY

In July a team from a church in Tennessee plans to visit for a short time to support and encourage the team on Nosy Mitsio. Pray for logistics and travel and that it would be an effective time for everyone.

#### **GROW, PARTNER AND GO...**

For accompanying articles and stories, visit: • eu.aimint.org/toritapr2020

A new TIMO team began ministry in South Sudan at the end of last year. Here's how we can pray.

#### WEEKENDFOCUS • 11-12 APRIL

Pray that this team would develop deep and lasting friendships with local believers and the wider community in Torit. In doing this, pray the team would model gospel proclamation in every aspect of life, grow in their faith and have a greater heart for the lost.

#### 13 APR • MONDAY

Many people in South Sudan struggle with alcohol addiction. Pray that the gospel would break the bonds of addiction and whole families among the Lotukho, Lopit, Laarim and Didinga would come to faith in Jesus.

#### 14 APR • TUESDAY

Pray for the Torit team to build strong relationships with the local churches that they are involved with. Pray that the churches and our team would deepen their heart for the lost around them in South Sudan.

#### 15 APR • WEDNESDAY

Give thanks for the opportunities the team will have in Torit to meet people from different people groups. Pray that this will lead to people from traditionally gospel resistant groups encountering the good news.

#### 16 APR • THURSDAY

Pray for the local family living close to the TIMO team, that they would be encouraged through their relationships with the team. Pray that they would support the team well, particularly as they help with language and culture.

#### 17 APR • FRIDAY

Pray from Philippians 3:7-9 that the team would 'gain Christ above all else...' Pray that they would be able to find joy in their new circumstances, especially when they're missing material comforts and their home culture.

## SERVING EFFECTIVELY IN CREATIVE ACCESS AREAS

For accompanying articles and stories, visit: • eu.aimint.org/effectiveapr2020

How do you run a TIMO team in a creative access location? We asked one of our former creative access workers and TIMO team leaders to share their thoughts and prayer requests.



#### WEEKENDFOCUS • 18-19 APRIL

The harvest field is plentiful. Pray for wisdom for those in leadership to know where to place new teams, and creativity to find acceptable ways to have a presence and be a witness in creative access locations.

#### 20 APR • MONDAY

There are still millions of people in Africa who don't know Jesus and in order for us to be effective in reaching them, we need experienced people who are willing to lead others. Without team leaders we are not able to start teams, so please pray for more team leaders for creative access locations.

#### 21 APR • TUESDAY

Pray that AlM's regional leaders would have wisdom as to who they could ask to take on team leader roles. Pray that those who God is calling to lead a team would recognise and trust that it is God who equips them for the task. Pray that they will have the courage to step out in faith into new roles.

#### 22 APR • WEDNESDAY

Pray for the many people who heard about Jesus through the TIMO team mentioned in the previous article. May God continue to work in their hearts, convincing them of the truth of what they have heard!

#### 23 APR • THURSDAY

Praise the Lord that three members of the TIMO team are returning to work in the same country. Pray that God would equip and empower them for their new roles and continue to help them as they improve in the local language and show Jesus' love to those among whom they live.

#### 24 APR • FRIDAY

Praise the Lord that many relationships developed by the TIMO team are continuing from afar, thanks to the internet. Pray for effective ways to share truth by this means and for wisdom and diligence for those who are trading messages in this way.

#### WEEKENDFOCUS • 25-26 APRIL

Pray for a local Christian leader who boldly proclaims the truth, despite having been imprisoned for doing so. Pray for his wife and family to know a deep sense of God's presence with them through difficult times.



#### 27 APR • MONDAY

Praise the Lord for his people who are present in creative access locations. Pray for divine appointments as they seek to be light in a dark place. Pray that they would have the courage to continue when the darkness seems overwhelming.

#### 28 APR • TUESDAY

Pray for those who have become followers of Jesus, that they would be established in the faith and that they would stand firm as they experience persecution. Pray that they would know the support of other believers.

#### 29 APR • WEDNESDAY

Whilst living in a creative access context, we met many women who were oppressed, trapped in difficult circumstances because of their place in society and the local religion. Pray that women would find freedom and hope in Jesus.

#### **30 APR • THURSDAY**

Give thanks for past and present TIMO leaders in creative access contexts who are willing to balance the needs of their own businesses and to support the team members in their care. Pray they would be able to take time to refresh and restore themselves as well as their team.