

OSJ PRAYERS

Friday, November 4, 2011

Violence in Yemen and Syria

Violence and loss of life continue in Yemen and Syria. Protesters continue to speak out against the rule of their current governments who have responded with violent crackdowns. In Syria, over three thousand people have died. And in Yemen, led by Nobel Peace Prize winner Tawakkul Karman, hundreds of women burned traditional veils in response to over 20 people who were killed in clashes earlier this week. Please pray for peace in the region. Pray that leaders will become responsive to the voices of their people and provide the means for their voices to be heard. Pray that the protesters and leaders will come together to put an end to the violence and loss of life.

World population hits seven billion

According to the UN, the world's population reached seven billion on October 31st. With the growing population come concerns over the lack of access to food, water, shelter and medicine of the world's poorest people. Almost half of the world's population lives on \$2 a day or less; 800 million people live in slums; and over 850 million people suffer from food insecurity or chronic undernourishment. Please pray for the future generation; ask that justice will be restored and that access to food, water, shelter and medicine will no longer be a daily struggle for the world's poorest. Pray that the church will lead the way in ministering to the poor and that its witness will be a testament to God's power and grace.

Cuba embargo

For the 20th consecutive year, UN member states have condemned the US embargo on Cuba. The embargo has caused over \$1 trillion in damages to the Cuban economy. The embargo also harms the Christian Reformed Church's ministry in Cuba with our partner, the Cuban Christian Reformed Church. Please pray that our government will end this embargo. Pray that justice will reign and that the ministries of the CRC and the Cuban CRC will flourish.

Fighting in the Philippines

Over 25 people have been killed in recent fighting in the Philippines. Rebels from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in the country's southern region have clashed with Philippine special forces. The Philippine government has been negotiating with the rebels to end more than four decades of violence that has killed more than 120,000 and displaced over 2 million people. Please pray for peace. Pray that peace talks will continue and that the continued loss of life will end. Pray for the many people who have lost loved ones and those who have been displaced from homes and family. May they experience God's grace in new ways.

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