

June Prayer points: Praying for the Nations

| Country | % Christian | |
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| Niger | <1% | Predominantly Muslim, Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world. It does have mineral resources which may power economic growth but the main industry currently is agriculture. There are regular droughts which makes life precarious. Slavery is still practiced in some areas and there is trafficking for work in mines and the sex trade. There is some growth in evangelism but it is from a very low base. |
| Togo | 29% | Although anti-Christian in the 1970's the country has religious freedom. Within the church there are tensions as local beliefs have been incorporated by some congregations. The country is extremely poor with average income of less than US\$2 per day. Approximately 300,000 children are being exploited. The biggest killer in the country is malaria and there is a high prevalence of HIV/Aids. |
| Liberia | 42% | Originally founded by ex-slaves, Liberia is the oldest republic in Africa. Sadly issues of trafficking and exploitation are regular features. The country has been riven by civil wars in its recent history and was badly hit by the Ebola virus. The economy is still not recovered although it has mineral wealth. There is a shortage of drinking water. Nearly half the population is under 15 years of age and of the population the literacy rate is barely 50%. |
| Malawi | 81% | The church in Malawi is growing although is hindered by poverty and a lack of education. The country lacks a basic infrastructure and its increasing population puts pressure on agricultural land. Malawi is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. There are serious health issues with Yellow Fever and malaria rampant and high levels of HIV/Aids. |
| Mali | 2% | Although the church is small and in a predominantly Islamic country, it is tolerated and is growing. Mali has a stable democracy and has managed to navigate the competing ethnic and linguistic issues faced by others. Predominantly agricultural but with gold mining the country is still poor. There are issues of trafficking and forced labour and exploitation. Another young country with half the population under 20 and high levels of infant mortality. |

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| Mauritius | 32% | Despite its history of colonialism, Mauritius has emerged as a strong peaceful democracy. There is free health care and education with over 90% literacy. The capital city, Port Louis, is one of the richest cities in Africa. Tourism is increasingly important. There are social issues with high levels of opiate abuse. The country is predominantly Hindu which is resistant to the growth of the church and there is a need for leaders to advance the gospel in unreached parts of the country. |
| Montenegro | 79% | Most Christians are from one of the Orthodox faiths and there are deep divisions between the various branches following the wars in Yugoslavia. Much of claimed Christianity is linked to ethnic identity rather than faith. There are still issues with the Moslem population who harbour bitterness following the wars in the region. Only a country since 2006 Montenegro has a fast growing tourism sector but still has considerable economic problems. |
| Norway | | A rich country with large oil and gas deposits which account for a third of national income. The country strongly supports equality with legal requirements on female membership of committees etc. Norway's Christians are generally Lutheran although many are only notionally church members. Norway is one of the largest providers of missionaries in the world. Islam is the second largest religion due to immigration and many of these are receptive to the gospel message. |
| Portugal | 89% | Although notionally predominantly Christian, the number who actively follow the Gospels is much lower and much religion is simply out of habit. The church has though been a unifying influence in the country. Portugal is suffering some economic problems due to lack of competitiveness with high unemployment. There is a significant drug problem both in terms of use by young people and also because the country is a conduit through which drugs are moved across Europe. |
| San Marino | 88% | Regarded as the world's oldest republic, San Marino has a population of only 34,000. It has an economy based on banking and tourism and a high standard of living. The country has no national debt and the highest employment rates in Europe. As such materialism has become more important than religion despite the high numbers of people professing Christianity. Evangelism is unwelcomed with stories of people being forced to leave the country. |
| Slovakia | 74% | Part of what was once Czechoslovakia, the country has forged an independent existence and economically is one of the fastest growing in Europe. That has caused |

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| | | problems in the church attendances have dropped and many are Christian only notionally. The country has some of the highest depression and suicide rates in Europe. A local ethnic Romani group has experienced some persecution by the police in recent years and this is an unresolved issue. |
| Slovenia | 54% | A small stable country, Slovenia has the highest average income of the former Soviet bloc. Since independence it has been stable despite some tensions with neighbouring Croatia. It also accepted large numbers of Bosnian refugees. The main church in Slovenia is Roman Catholicism. There has traditionally been a strong evangelical presence but this has waned with many congregations being unable to support full time ministers. There is a need for Christian literature to be translated into the local language. |
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