

# Lorna



## Missionary to South Africa

# Mitchell

Reaching Orphans for Jesus Christ



April 2022

*"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." - James 5:13-16*

I have found that sometimes prayer letters can turn into a "highlight reel" of life over the past month on the field. I am guilty of this myself. I want you all to rejoice with me in how God is working. I send pictures and updates of all the excitement going on; but often, I neglect to ask for the one thing I (we) need most- prayer. So, as you read this letter, I hope you are able to see that yes, God is working, but above all else, we covet your prayers.

These last couple months began with much excitement, as we saw the LFM school/medical facility begin construction. We made plans for our incoming interns and our first church group. We prayed in much anticipation together, as we watched God opening doors and new opportunities for ministry.

Then, unexpectedly, all our plans came to a stop. Nathaniel Bergey, "Thanny," Brent and Selina's 17- year-old son, became sick and needed an emergency surgery. Shortly after, Thanny was diagnosed with Stage 4 Lymphoma. Within that same week, he and his mom boarded a plane and flew back to the States to begin his chemo treatment. Though our world is left spinning, we have found that God's grace is truly sufficient for each moment. Please pray for strength and grace as the Bergey family walks this valley together. Pray for Mrs. Bergey, as she is separated from her husband and other babies while caring for her son. Pray for much courage for Thanny, as he continues to face this difficult journey. It has been such an encouragement to watch this family praise the Lord even through the darkest of days. God is always, only good.

Though life looks different, ministry has *not* stopped. Pastor Brent is faithfully leading Abundant Life Baptist Church and ministries here, while his wife and son are miles away. It has been wonderful to see our church family rally together in the unity of seeing God get the glory through it all. Ellie, the Bergey's eldest daughter, has taken over the responsibilities of homeschooling her siblings and keeping their hearts physically and emotionally stable. Pray for them as they carry a lot on their shoulders.

Meanwhile, in my cottage, Little "P" and "A" are continuing to grow and thrive. In the midst of navigating these new waves around us, God added a tiny little fish to our ministry. Though my world has changed completely (and my eyes are slightly baggier in the morning), my heart is overwhelmed with love for this sweet baby boy. We are humbled that God allowed us the opportunity to love on this precious child. God is still working.

It is a privilege to serve God through the mountains and valleys.  
He will never fail us.  
His way is perfect.

### Additional Prayer Requests:

- Continue praying for the rest of our LFM team as they travel and raise their support (the Womack family, the Byerly family, and Brittney Schear)
- Please pray for our nurse, Hannah Bennett, as she stays stateside to assist Thanny and Mrs. Bergey through this cancer journey. I know she is such a comfort and blessing to them.
- Praise the Lord that the remaining \$10,000 came in to complete our LFM Medical/school facility! Any additional love offerings and other funds given towards this project will be used in helping us furnish the kitchen and purchase any appliances needed!
- Pray that we would press forward and see God's glory shine bright!

Yours for South Africa,  
Lorna Mitchell



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