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Pray with Morocco on Sunday, June 17, 2018

BY FRITZ-GERALD JOSEPH ON JUNE 10, 2018

Lectionary Selection: Mark 4:26-34

Prayers for Morocco:

Precious God,

You who give seed to the sower, harvest and fruit to humankind. We are thankful for every seed of love, joy, peace and justice that has been sown into the rich soil of this country. We surely know that in due time, they will bring forth abundant fruit.

May you strengthen the work of the Evangelical Protestant Church of Morocco that we may continue to be this tree for your children to come find rest and refreshment for their souls, minds and bodies. We lift to you those who are supporting this tremendous work by their various contributions. Bless them so they can be a blessing to the least of these.

In the midst of lack and scarcity, we are yet confident that we will reap an unprecedented harvest. We trust in your benevolence, and we know that you are the great provider, who never fails.

Master of time and circumstances, please send your rain in every dry place, let your sun shine on us, and let the atmosphere be favorable to your people as we journey through the various seasons of life.

Let the joy of your kingdom dwell upon us; let the peace of Jesus Christ guard our mind and let the unity of the Holy Spirit keep us together.

Amen!



Mission Stewardship Moment from Morocco:

The Evangelical Protestant Church of Morocco provides a place where Christians gather to live and express their faith in a country that has a Muslim population of 98%. We preach the gospel not only through words, but also through deliberate and consistent actions of welcoming foreigners, assisting and helping migrants and refugees in their journey to Europe. But many stuck in Morocco. Daily, we provide food, water, clothes, and shelter to women, men, and children. The church portrays this parable of the mustard seed which is sown in the earth, and then produces branches to enable the birds of the heaven to roost in its shade (Mark 4.30-34).



In Oujda where I currently serve, in the church presbytery there is a table which we call the “crossroad table.” It is covered with a multicolor tablecloth symbolizing the diversity of the people who sit around it. Every day migrants, foreign students, tourists and visitors sit and eat together. It is always amazing to see all these people who are tired, thirsty, and hungry find a place where their needs can be met and where they can share their stories and learn and appreciate one another.



I always have a smile on my face, not only because I have the opportunity to live such a wonderful experience, but I know that the Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ, through Global Ministries, have contributed to make a difference in the lives of these people.

On the behalf of all of them I say thank you!

To God be the Glory!

(Prayer and Mission Moment by Fritz-Gerald Joseph)

Global Ministries Mission Co-worker:

Fritz-Gerald is a member of Église Pentecôte Missionnaire de Prières. He currently serves with the Evangelical Church of Morocco.

More information on Morocco:

<https://www.globalministries.org/morocco>



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Morocco

Morocco is located in Northern Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea between Algeria and Western Sahara.

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy led by King Mohammed VI. In early 2011 King Mohammed VI responded to the spread of pro-democracy protests in the region by implementing a reform program that included a new constitution, passed by popular referendum in July 2011, under which some new powers were extended to parliament and the prime minister but ultimate authority remains in the hands of the monarch.

Sunni Islam is the state religion and about 99% of Moroccans are Sunni Muslim; the other 1% are Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i.

Population (2014 est) – 33,322,699

Area – 172,414 sq. miles

Capital – Rabat

Ethnic Background

Arab-Berber – 99.1%

Jewish – 0.2%

Other – 0.7%

Exports – clothing and textiles, automobiles, electric components, inorganic chemicals, transistors, crude minerals, fertilizers (including phosphates), petroleum products, citrus fruits, vegetables, fish

Imports – crude petroleum, textile fabric, telecommunications equipment, wheat, gas and electricity, transistors, plastics

Life Expectancy (2015 est) – M 74 years F 80 years

Infant Mortality (2015 est) – 23.6 deaths/1,000 live births

Adult Illiteracy Rate – 31.5%