

A Time to Remember & Pray



- **Remember the Holocaust** – 6 million Jews & nearly as many other people were murdered by Nazi Germany during World War II. Last week marked the “Days of Remembrance” in the U.S. & Israel. (This time begins the Sunday before the Israeli observance of Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Day), & ends the following Sunday. It falls in April or May.) Other countries also have remembrance days, many on or around January 27th when the Auschwitz concentration camp was liberated in 1945. It is a time to remember the lives lost, remember what led to this horrendous tragedy, & renew efforts to stop such actions from being repeated. The antisemitism that led to the Holocaust, is still a problem, & in many places, along with racism, a growing concern.
- **Thailand** - spring storms are causing major damage.
- **Western Australia** where recovery from cyclone Ilsa continues.
- **Sudan** – 2 military groups are fighting for control of the country. The violence is cutting food & other essential services for many. Thousands are displaced & trying to flee the country. Health care & aid workers are being targeted for violence. Many foreign nationals are trapped in the country. Some countries began evacuating their citizens last weekend. Some of these efforts have been attacked.
- **People in the U.S. dealing with flooding, tornados, & spring storms**
- **Those who are sick, homeless, hungry, abused, alone.**
- **Earthquake recovery continues in Turkey, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Ecuador, & Peru.**
- **Syria – war there continues. People were being, bombed & shelled within hours after the earthquake. Attacks continue even as people try to recover from the massive earthquake destruction & loss of life.**
- **Congo where there is a cholera outbreak in refugee camps.**
- **Malawi, Mozambique, & Madagascar recovering from cyclone Freddy. Mozambique is also dealing with a growing cholera outbreak.**
- **Around the world, millions of people have/are fleeing their homes due to political crisis & violence – 103 million people have fled their home countries; 53.2 million are displaced in their home countries**
- **Victims of Gun Violence** – Already this year, 13,306 people have died in gun violence (up 1,425 from April 12) including 552 children (up 62 from April 12). 10,478 people have been injured (up 1,365 from April 12) including 1,350 children (up 180 from April 12). 7,590 of the deaths are suicides (up 792 from April 12). There have already been 172 mass shootings (up 23 from April 12) this year. (Gun Violence Archive statistics). There are, on average, 1.5 mass shootings every day in the U.S. No other developed country has anything like the gun violence seen in the U.S.
- **Ukraine where the war, now over a year old, continues.**
- **The continuing COVID Pandemic** – COVID is still serious. Vaccines & treatments have reduced COVID death rates, but 1,100 people still die of COVID every day in the U.S. The number of new cases is increasing in some countries including India where the situation is very serious again. As of last week, India has surpassed China as the world’s most populated country.