



MISSIONS PARTNERS PRAYER GUIDE

2023 - 2024

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Church Family,

Tucked away in lonely corners of the world are some of God's finest people—those believers who partner with us in fulfilling the Great Commission of taking the gospel to all nations (Matthew 28:19-20). Once a year, I intentionally ask each of you to set aside eight days to pray for them by name. So, join me on our knees this week. Set aside time to seriously call upon the Lord to bless our partners. Ask the Lord to speed ahead his work (2 Thessalonians 3:1-2). Pray for divine protection for men and women where Christianity is not understood or accepted. Let's place our focus on the Lord together.

Scott Maze

Senior Pastor

24 HOURS OF PRAYER & FASTING

Our week of prayer for missions will be bookended with intentional prayer and fasting. We invite you to culminate the week with a corporate fast from Saturday evening, November 11 at 6:00, through Sunday evening, November 12 at 6:00. For most of us, we are calling for a traditional fast from food because this is the biblical precedent (Matthew 9:15), and because 24 hours without food is impossible not to notice. The physical hunger pangs drive us to our knees so that we might cry out to God with an intensification and fervency of prayer. However, some of you may be unable to participate in a traditional fast because of schedule or physical limitations that make fasting unsafe. Those who cannot fast from food may still participate by intentionally and sacrificially fasting from something like social media or television. In place of your hunger for food or entertainment, let's hunger for God's glory to spread across the nations (Psalm 63:1-4). Each time during these 24 hours you find yourself wanting to eat (or check your Facebook feed), let this serve as a reminder to pray, and to pray with passion and intentionality.

SUNDAY | 11.5.23

North American Mission Board

There are more than 246 million people in North America who do not have a relationship with Jesus. We can help rewrite that story. Ordinary people change the statistics by getting up, stepping out in faith, and using their lives on mission for God.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for church planters to be called out to start new churches to reach the millions of unreached people in North America.
- Pray for the efforts of Send Relief, the human needs arm of NAMB and IMB, to meet the needs of those hurting around our nation and around the world.

imb

Cross Church partners with over 3,500 IMB missionaries worldwide through giving to the SBC's Cooperative Program and gifts through Stronger Together. In 2022, IMB missionaries shared the gospel with 728,589 people, seeing 178,177 new believers and planting 21,231 new churches.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that IMB missionaries in challenging security situations will be protected and able to finish the task in their locations.
- Pray that every IMB missionary continues to reach the lost.



MONDAY | 11.6.23

FARMINGTON

Higher Ground Baptist Church in Farmington, NM was planted in 2018 and is led by pastor Josh Valdez. Their outreach focuses on the Navajo (27%) and Hispanic (25%) populations of the area. This region is highly influenced by Navajo spirituality and customs. Many in the community are unfamiliar with the gospel and there is a desperate need for them to know the truth of God's love through Jesus's sacrifice. Pastor Valdez is native to this area and is passionate to see his community transformed by the gospel. For the past two years, Cross Church sent leaders and students to evangelize and teach Bible studies during spring break. We have been able to witness the fruit of our efforts as some have joined community events that connect them with the church body. Higher Ground Baptist Church appreciates the support given toward their ministry.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that people will continue to give generously, as Pastor Valdez has transitioned to full time at the church.
- Now that Pastor Valdez is giving full attention to the church, he is looking to bolster their structure and leadership. Pray that God provides another person to join him in pastoring.
- Pray for Valerie Valdez (his wife) as she is starting a new job as a nurse in Shiprock, NM.



TUESDAY | 11.7.23

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Mark, Lydia, and their children, Adriana (age 9) and Jeremiah (age 5), serve in Southeast Asia. They arrived on the field in 2019 as members of our church and part of the Homebuilders Bible Fellowship Group. After a couple of years in one city training, learning language, building relationships, and sharing the gospel, they have now moved to a new city within the same country. They are working with a team that has a vision of planting a church within their people group. Mark and Lydia are using sports, relationships, and broad seed sowing to share the gospel in a place that is unreached.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for discernment for Mark and Lydia as they seek out opportunities that will lead to gospel conversations.
- Pray that their family will have opportunities to share as they build relationships and establish themselves in the community.
- Pray for Mark and Lydia's work platform and visa applications to be approved yearly, so their family can remain in the country.
- Pray for Adriana and Jeremiah to develop strong friendships and feel a part of the community and ministry.
- Pray for their friends Matt, Sarah, and Ashley to come to faith.



Greg and Jennifer are members of our church and have served in Southeast Asia for the past 17 years. Mitchell and Emma, who are also members of our church, have joined them as teammates.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the Gen Z young people that are coming to their English outreach. Current events have caused many to become disillusioned with traditional Buddhist worldviews and they are looking to the world for answers. Please pray that as the truth is shared with them, that they would see the reality and beauty of the Gospel, give their lives to Christ, and impact their generation for Him.
- Pray for Train Station Village where their local partner Miss Oo has been investing most over the last few years. Pray that those who have shown interest in the Gospel there would forsake all to follow Christ and that a church would be planted. Pray that a weekly gathering to worship God would begin.
- Pray that God would send more workers into the harvest fields, to follow up with the many seeds that have been planted in Train Station Village and among the Gen Z English students.
- Pray that as Mitch and Emma keep growing in their language ability, the Father would open the door for them to have more relationships with the lost.



A person is walking on a paved path that curves through a dense forest. The scene is captured at dusk or dawn, with soft, warm light filtering through the trees. The path is illuminated by streetlights, and the overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

BIG OFFERING
NOVEMBER 12

GOAL \$350,000

Over the past decade, \$11.2 million has been raised through Better Together, Grow Together, Stronger Together, and Stronger Together+.

LATVIA

Latvia is a Republic in Northeastern Europe on the Gulf of Riga and the Baltic Sea where the roots of the Baptist faith can be traced back to the early 1800s. Latvia has been an independent country since the fall of the USSR in 2004, but they have been ruled by Poland, Germany, Sweden, and Russia since the 13th century. The impact of this is evident in Latvian culture today. Before partnering with The Dwelling Place Church, our church was involved in the construction of a Christian camp in Ventspils and helped support a Christian school in Talsi. Both of these cities are located in the western area of Latvia. In 2023, we sent a mission team to assist with the very first VBS event held by The Dwelling Place Church, and it was a great success, with over 40 children in attendance! This event was so well received by their church family and city population that they have already scheduled next year's event in June 2024.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for Pastor Kārlis Kārklīņš and his family as they lead the church in Riga.
- Pray for the two bi-vocational pastors of The Dwelling Place Church.
- Pray for the finances needed to continue remodeling the existing church structure. The church building is a very old structure and is always needing repairs. One such repair is an updated, energy efficient heating system.
- Pray for the 2024 VBS event. Last year's VBS event was great, but needed more volunteers.
- Pray for the tools and resources needed to help with Ukrainian refugees flooding into Latvia.

VANCOUVER

New Song Community Church aims to reach an ethnically diverse population in the rapidly growing, suburban city of Langley, BC. Christian and Laura Rowland were sent out from International Baptist Church of Arlington in December 2018 to plant New Song Community Church. After starting weekly services with five people, they have grown steadily, one couple or family at a time. New Song received charity status with the Canadian government (a huge feat for a young church plant), a pastoral team was established, and worship and children's ministry teams began to form. God then provided an opportunity to move Sunday services to a local public elementary school, where they continue to gather. Over the last year, they celebrated the formation of six key ministry teams, several baptisms, and the first anniversary service of officially being registered as New Song Community Church. This year, New Song has had multiple community outreach opportunities through events and camps.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the people of New Song to go deeper in prayer and in the Word.
- Pray for God to use New Song to train up the next generation of servant leaders as more people respond to God's prompting to volunteer and serve.
- Pray for a children's ministry leader to join their team, and the possibility of college interns.
- Pray for the Rowlands' daughter, Leara, as she transitions to kindergarten in public school.
- Pray for the healthy birth of the Rowlands' third baby, Moriah Ruth, due November 2023.



MISSION TRIPS

in 2024

March 9 - 13 / Brownsville / Middle School

March 9 - 15 / Farmington / High School

May 27 - 31 / Location TBD / Student Choir

May 31 - June 8 / Latvia / Adults

July 6 - 13 / Vancouver / Adults

July 11 - 20 / Portugal / Adults

October 10 - 14 / Vancouver / Adults

visit ccdfw.org/missions for current information.

FRIDAY | 11.10.23

PORTUGAL

Our most recent mission trip to Portugal took place in July 2023. A group of eight adults worked with local IMB missionaries, Jacob and Cara Stevens, to support the church in Monção, located north of Porto on the Portugal/Spain border. With less than 2% of the people in Portugal having a transforming relationship with Christ, the need in this beautiful country is great. Our group worked with Pastor Carlos Martinez and his family at the Igreja Evangélica Baptista de Monção, teaching ESL lessons where we shared the good news of Jesus Christ. We developed sweet relationships with the members of this small congregation and encouraged them as they continue to further the kingdom in Monção.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for wisdom for Jacob and Cara as they develop a vision for church planting work in the northern region of Portugal.
- Pray for Pastor Carlos Martinez and his family as they use their unique giftedness (fluency in Portuguese and Spanish) to plant and grow churches in the Portugal/Spain border area.
- Pray for First Baptist Gaia (the Stevens' main partnering church) as they have had an above normal number of pregnancies in the church. Join them in praying for the protection of these new lives and growing families.



SATURDAY | 11.11.23

BROWNSVILLE

Jerico Church was planted in Brownsville, TX in 2016 by West Brownsville Baptist Church. During spring break 2023, our church sent middle school students and leaders to Brownsville to partner with Jerico Church to reach families with the gospel through a sports camp in a local apartment community. Since our recent mission trip, Jerico Church continued to minister to those in the apartments. Cameron County has one of the lowest family income levels and highest teen pregnancy rates in the state. Many in the area have a works-based understanding of salvation and other misunderstandings of the gospel, so there is a great need for them to hear the gospel of grace.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the spiritual growth of every member of Jerico Church.
- Pray for those in the church's neighborhood to receive Christ as church members share the gospel.
- Pray for people living in the Rockwell Apartment complex to receive the gospel and for an open door for us to have sports camp again next spring.



SUNDAY | 11.12.23

INDIA

Gospel Harvesters International (GHI) has been sharing the gospel in India for over 33 years under the leadership of Mack and Dottie Kearney. Harvester's Theological College and Seminary was founded in 2001 with the goal of training nationals to minister to their own people. In 2005, The Father's Home Orphanage was established after a tsunami left thousands of children homeless. Since then, over 455 children have been loved and cared for, many of whom were rescued from sex trafficking and abuse. More than 180 house churches have been started and through GHI, 800 to 1,000 decisions are made for Christ each month.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for protection from the anti-Christian faction of the Indian government.
- Pray for two orphan girls enrolled in nursing school as they begin their studies and a life away from The Father's Home.
- Pray for the construction of a new church building which will combine four village churches.
- Pray that GHI's donor base will increase as 120 people are supported daily through their ministry.
- Pray for the staff and their families as they use their gifts to share the gospel and minister daily in the surrounding villages.

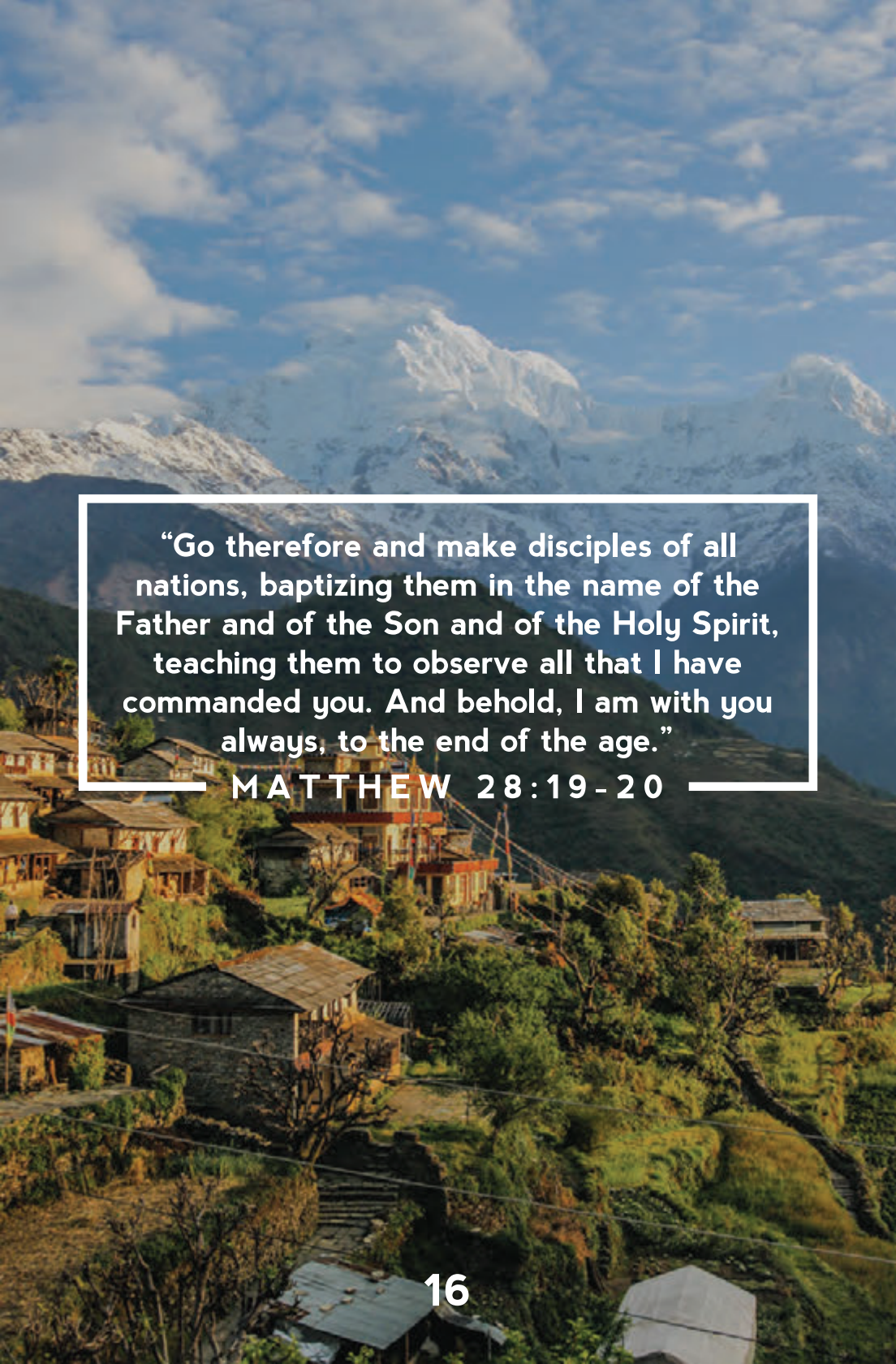


Paul and Monica serve in South Asia where there are roughly 45 million “cousins” (those of another particular religion) residing in their state. While church planting in the area has flourished among other communities, it has not been successful among cousins. The team seeks to address lostness among cousin communities by training local believers in “No Cousins Left” outreach tools and modeling those tools by engaging lost cousins themselves and with partners. Their vision for 2023-2024 is to continue to coach 10 of these trained leaders, start coaching meetings with two new cohorts of trained evangelists, and partner with these individuals to launch three new training initiatives in three unreached areas of the state.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for Paul as he coaches local leaders and partners with them to do effective evangelism, discipleship, and church planting among local cousin communities.
- Pray that sustainability projects that Paul helped launch would become economically sustainable.
- Pray for Monica as she partners with local women to train leaders’ wives and other women in their fellowships.
- Pray that God would send faithful servants to go into the three new cousin harvest fields.



A scenic view of a mountain village with snow-capped peaks in the background. The village is built on a hillside, with wooden houses and a stone building. A suspension bridge is visible in the distance. The sky is blue with scattered clouds.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

EPI

Evangelism Partners International Ministries is a non-profit, faith-based, and Christ-centered evangelistic mission organization, started and overseen by John and Sharon Booker and headquartered in Fort Worth, TX. Through supportive partnerships with churches, international missionary organizations, and indigenous missionaries, evangelists, and church planters, Evangelism Partners International shares the clear and compelling gospel message in schools, prisons, and villages around the world. EPI is currently training and equipping indigenous pastors in 19 African countries to carry out the Great Commission primarily through showing the Jesus Film.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for protection of pastors and families working in Muslim areas.
- Pray for ready hearts to receive Christ as individuals experience Jesus for the first time through the Jesus Film.
- Pray for God to open new areas for church plants and growth.
- Pray for more workers in the field.



CROSS CHURCH NFW

If we could ask you to pray for the North Fort Worth Campus with one word, it would be: children. This year we saw 159 children come to Vacation Bible School. Five of those placed their faith in Christ and many others had spiritual questions that our amazing volunteers were able to answer. We are seeing the fruit of those conversations in baptisms this fall! On a typical Sunday morning, the children's area is full. Soon a new modular building will arrive with additional classroom space. This will allow us to better divide ages and grades. We have already installed new lights on the lawn that we use for special events and each Wednesday night. The ministry of this campus of our church is not limited to our own children. This fall, Northwest ISD had over 30,000 students enrolled in the district. Each week, we deliver 104 snack packs that go home with students in need over the weekend. Celebrate Recovery now offers multiple tracks for children, students, and adults on Tuesday nights. Pray that we would train our own children well and make room for the new families that God has for us to reach.

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for new families moving to the area and looking for a church home.
- Pray for the ministry of Celebrate Recovery, a vital connection to the community.
- Pray for the faculty, staff, and students of neighboring schools Berkshire Elementary and International Leadership of Texas Keller-Saginaw High.

2024

OTHER MISSIONS GIVING BREAKDOWN

IMB (Lottie Moon)	\$100,000
Vancouver Church Support	\$16,550
Other Mission Opportunities	\$15,150
North American Mission Trips	\$14,500
NAMB (Annie Armstrong)	\$10,000
International Mission Trips	\$10,000
Farmington Church Support	\$7,800
Local Missions	\$7,000
Southeast Asia Missionary Support	\$5,000
India (No Cousins Left)	\$5,000
India (GHI)	\$3,000
Latvia Church Support	\$3,000
Brownsville Church Support	\$3,000

\$200,000

total



 **CROSS**
CHURCH

ccdfw.org/missions