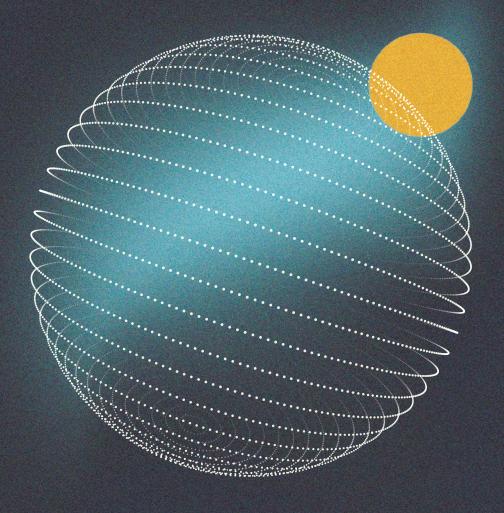
# A Light for the Nations



## Dear 2PC Friends,

As we begin a new year of World Missions at Second, we're facing a world that is changing faster than any of us could have imagined. It's not hard to see the signs of the end of the age which Jesus described to his disciples 2,000 years ago in Matthew 24.

The great encouragement from our Savior at the end of this passage (Matthew 24:14) is, "And this gospel of the Kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."

We at Second have enjoyed the great privilege of being a sending church for many generations. While our strategies to reach the nations will certainly change with the times, the need remains the same. In Matthew 9:37, Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

We have been praying this prayer, and God has faithfully answered. In this latest edition of our World Missions prayer booklet we have many new partners whom God has called from our own number. Let us ask the Lord to make us faithful in prayer for our partners. Ask God to make prayer for our world mission partners a normal part of the rhythms of life in our homes, parishes, and church.

The Apostle Paul remains our greatest example of a life lived in missionary obedience. As he awaited certain death in a Roman prison, his faith never wavered. We are told in the last verses of Acts 28 that he spent his last days, "proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance."

Paul himself, in Ephesians 6:19, had asked for prayer to that end, "...and pray for me, that words would be given me in the opening of my mouth to proclaim the mystery of the Gospel..."

Let us devote ourselves to praying for each of our partners daily, that the Gospel would sound forth in power, and that His Kingdom would come here on earth, as it is in heaven.



**Mike Warner**World Missions Committee Chair

### **Pray for Our Missionaries**

Listen to how Paul prayed for the Ephesians in Ephesians 3:14–19:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Let us follow Paul's example by praying that our missionaries, and those whom they serve, might be strengthened by Christ in their inner being, and that they might experience God to the fullest.

#### **Ideas About Prayer for Our Missionaries**

**Pray** that they will have a consistent, meaningful devotional life in the Word.

**Pray** for strong marriages, good parenting skills, and for the missionaries' families in their home countries.

**Pray** for their emotional needs—an assurance of God's love and presence.

**Pray** for their adaptability to the culture, fluency in the language, and good relationships with national workers.

**Pray** for the people whom they serve—that they might meet Jesus, be transformed by the Gospel, and be equipped to proclaim the Gospel faithfully to their own people.

**Pray** for unity and maturity in the national churches that are being established.

#### **Receive Missionary Updates Electronically**

For electronic updates or text messages of missionary prayer requests, visit 2pc.org/subscribe, or, for mobile users, download the 2PC app to your phone, and select Manage Email Subscriptions.

Contact Lisa at (901) 531-1682 or lisa.ritenour@2pc.org with questions.

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# Southeast Asia

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Brian & Terri
Randy & Martha
Jeff & Lynne
Maddie Lebeter
John M.
Tezar & Tatiana





# Dave & Joyce Briley BIBLE TRANSLATION / U.S. BASED - INDONESIA

The Brileys have spent the last 30+ years creating a written language and translating the Bible for the Bauzi people of Papua, New Guinea. With the New Testament completed, Dave and local translator Yormi are working to complete a translation of the OT. Even though Dave and Joyce now reside in the states, they have found software that allows them to collaborate remotely. Yormi has completed the first draft of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Zechariah, and Dave is going through and checking them. Each of the books are in various stages of completion. Dave is planning a trip in the first half of 2023 to complete the comprehensive checks on all the books. The Briley's house in the village sustained damage from a storm. Yormi is checking on the damage and needed repairs to have it ready for Dave who is hoping to stay there while he is in Papua.

- They thank God for United Bible Society's translation program that has allowed their work to continue despite being in two different countries. Pray for wisdom and health for Dave to bring this work to completion.
- Pray for Yormi and his helpers as they work on the translations. Pray for continued good health and stamina for them to complete this remaining OT books.
- Pray for God's mercy and provision as Yormi and Dave assess the damage to the Briley's home and make decisions about repairs.



Daryl & Marlene Bussert

JAARS INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SAFETY /
U.S. BASED - SE ASIA

Daryl and Marlene are based in Waxhaw, NC, where they work with JAARS, Inc.—an organization helping to make Bible translations and language development possible in remote places. They made their first audit trip to New Guinea in the 1990's, when they identified a lack of continuity in much needed maritime transportation. JAARS efforts now include not only Aviation Safety but also Maritime and Land Transportation projects. Daryl has earned both his private pilot's license and certification as an Open Water Diver (including night-time certification) in order to better assess how to make physical delivery of God's word possible in challenging places. Praises that Technical Evaluations are "back on track to pre-Covid-19 levels." Additionally, as of December, Daryl is the Coordinator of the Transportation Needs Assessment Project, responsible for making wise decisions regarding the provision of transportation resources. This new assignment may require some international travel.

- Pray for Dave as he takes on this new role in addition to his other responsibilities
  and works to form the needs assessment teams and operations. Their goal is to be
  effective in removing the barriers and reducing the burdens to delivering God's
  word. Pray for stamina and good health for the increased travel responsibilities.
- Pray for training exercises, aviation and maritime, as challenges in the field are identified and solutions sought.
- Pray for Dave and Marlene as they address family issues and events, particularly as they help care for Marlene's 98-year-old mother.

# Michael D. STRATEGIC PARTNER / INDONESIA

Michael serves as the director of a national movement of church planters that seek to engage the majority religion of Indonesia with the gospel. He works closely with Pak Yusuf, who leads the West Java branch of this organization. Michael and his team work to initiate new strategies to engage new regions, develop support and encouragement for their existing church planting teams, and are currently seeking to discern how to support the growing movement of several hundred house churches. Despite significant opposition and persecution, they are seeing house churches planting other churches, in some locations, even to the 3rd and 4th generation. In his spare time, Michael visits Uzbekistan and other countries in the region to multiply this strategy more broadly.

- Pray that God would guide Michael and Pak Yusuf to new national believers who
  would respond to the call to be cross cultural missionaries within their own country.
- Pray that the young house churches of new believers from Islamic backgrounds would grow in depth and understanding of the Gospel.
- Pray that God would continue to give boldness and protection to new believers as they share their new faith with relatives and neighbors who have only known another religion.



Nicole D.
CHURCH PLANTING TEAM / INDONESIA

Spouse: Feodor

Since Nicole's parents are missionaries in Indonesia, she grew up familiar with the field. She moved to the U.S. for high school and college and Indonesia became far from her mind. In college she attended a conference that made her realize how much she missed Indonesia. God reminded her of all the times she served with her family, and she heard God tell her that missions has always been a part of her life and He didn't want that to stop. She now serves on a church planting team in Indonesia, working to foster Christian community between the youth groups from her church's English and Indonesian services. She works as head of the social media team at the English worship service and leads Bible studies in a local coffee shop. She also trains church members and seminary students in outreach to those of the majority religion. Her team leaders started Any-3, a medical clinic company, to help educate nationals about their health and provide care to patients. Nicole was invited to come in and train the two volunteers at the clinic in Any-3 so that as they interact with patients they may not only care for their physical and emotional health, but also for their spiritual health. Nicole's most exciting news is her marriage last November to Feodor, who shares her love of missions.

- Pray that the Lord would bless Nicole's marriage to Feodor and their work to further His kingdom as a newly married couple.
- Pray that the teenagers will grow closer to one another in fellowship and root their identity in Christ. Pray also that they will gain a deeper understanding of God's Word and grow up to be men and women who love God and His kingdom.
- Pray that evangelists will be trained and equipped to share the gospel effectively with people of the majority religion.



# John & Dawn REGIONAL MINISTRY DIRECTORS / THAILAND

John and Dawn serve as regional directors and coaches to new missionary teams in SE Asia. They resided in Thailand until 2019, when they returned to the U.S. for home leave. With a worldwide pandemic and her aging father, it became necessary for them to stay in the U.S. indefinitely. Their personally lived message is, "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps" (Prov 16:9). Following God's lead, they have closed their home in Thailand and direct their ministry from their US base while Dawn continues positive recuperation from radiation therapy for breast cancer. John's travel plans to a war-torn African nation were suspended in October due to flight and governmental issues. He asserted that "whether we get what we want in any situation is not nearly as important as trusting Him to direct our steps wherever the journey may lead." To that end, 2023 travel plans include visits to NE India, a prayer conference in Thailand, the Soli Deo Fellowship, and a region-wide conference with area leaders in SE Asia (the first since 2019).

- Pray for John's successful and safe completion of his many leadership travel plans and conferences.
- Pray for Dawn's continued recuperation and for stamina and strength as she cares for her aging father.
- Pray for the reprint and distribution of Bibles for the Dani people group that were translated by Dawn's father, a missionary for 60 years.



Brian & Terri
CAMPUS OUTREACH SERVE / THAILAND

Thirty-two years ago, Brian and Terri helped launch CO Thailand where today Christian advances are numerous, but a plentiful "harvest" remains. However, over the past few years, God has worked through Brian and Terri to recruit laborers for Christ from within Thailand and SE Asia as well as from every continent in the world. Brian and Terri will be on home assignment in the U.S. until May. Daughter Amy stayed in Thailand to continue college classes, while son Caleb is at Wallace State. With Brian and Terri in the U.S., the summer '22 project in Thailand utilized second-generation believers to present the Sustainable, Labor-producing, Indigenous, Multiplying Movements (SLIM2) ministry. Thailand, now OPEN after Covid-19, has a plentiful harvest of potential believers with many more trained laborers in place.

- Pray for continued momentum amongst the ministry that was built around their Christmas outreach events and that CO graduates would feel the call to continue receiving training in their home cities and engage with outreach in hub churches.
- Pray for incoming freshmen to be receptive to Christ's message and come to faith in Him.
- Pray for Brian and Terri's outreach plans for the year, including International Coordinator Meetings and a return to Thailand mid-May.



# Randy & Martha MISSIONARY TRAINING / U.S. BASED - SE ASIA

After serving 18 years on the field in SE Asia with EPC/WO, Randy, and Martha took on the role of continuing their ministry to Muslims through supporting field workers as trainers and coaches. They now conduct cross-cultural training and coaching for new missionaries and mission teams from a home base in the U.S. They travel around the world engaging with mission teams, hold trainings and work with key team leaders, do assessments, and lead spiritual formation groups with mission candidates. They have created a training toolbox to help field workers to thrive in cross-cultural and socially complex cities. They are thankful that Covid-19 restrictions have lifted allowing them once again to travel to those field workers and mission teams who will benefit from their coaching, counseling, and training sessions. They also use a spare bedroom in their home to house international students to whom they can minister and support.

- Pray for their busy travel schedules while balancing ministry opportunities in the U.S.
- Pray that their training sessions would help missionaries going to the field address issues of anxiety and stress that come with living and serving abroad.
- Pray that they can use their home to minister to international students who are in the U.S.

#### Jeff & Lynne

#### **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & CHURCH PLANTING / SE ASIA**

Children: Evan, Jayden, Calvin, Jenna, Darren

Jeff and Lynne serve as team leaders and have faithfully labored for 15+ years. Their ministry utilizes prayer, proclamation, and partnership to reach the Mly people. A 5 year emphasis on prayer for the Mly people has brought them to a "time of harvest" with emphasis now on proclamation (evangelism). They seek to meet Mly people in order to spread the word. They often use social media platforms coordinating media team efforts to complete development of a radio station. This project has faced numerous obstacles. Lynne continues to serve the local refugee communities through micro-learning centers. The refugee/undocumented population in Mlysia is 20% or about 8 million people, most of them Muslim.

- Pray for development of the radio station despite government requirements and approvals that have changed following the pandemic.
- Pray for Lynne's team who is bringing education to refugee children through micro learning centers. Pray for these centers to enable them to share the Gospel with many children and families.
- Pray that many would come to faith through their prayer, proclamation, and partnership initiatives and that the Holy Spirit would work in a new way among the Mly people.



# Maddie Lebeter CO SERVE RESOURCE TEAM / THAILAND

Maddie became a Christian through Campus Outreach her freshman year in college at SE Missouri State. Her junior year she attended a CO summer Cross Cultural Project in Thailand and felt God's call to global missions. After graduation, she made a short-term commitment to serve in Chiang Mai on a CO LEAD team. In 2019, she moved back to the U.S. with intentions and desires to minister to the Thai people, but Covid-19 and personal circumstances led to a three year pause on those plans. Now she is preparing to go back to Thailand this August to serve with the CO team in Khon Kaen and minister to Thai students at the university.

- Pray for Maddie to trust the Lord in all the details and circumstances, so that she could complete her support development and pre-field training events in a timely manner.
- Pray for diligence in language studies so that she can be fluent and able to speak to Thai students in their heart language.
- Pray that the Lord would lead through her and be her strength and shield, that she would rely on His strength each day.



**John M.**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & CHURCH PLANTING / U.S. BASED - SE ASIA

In 2011 John felt the call to go back to the field as part of the EPC/WO Engage 2025 initiative. Working with an Engage 2025 missionary couple in SE Asia, they began exploring the possibility of a mariculture project. John had a vision to use a Sea Cucumber business to employ local villagers and eventually plant a church. They commenced growing and selling sea cucumbers, eventually building a hatchery. A church planter joined their team, and the hatchery is making progress toward commercial levels of production. They are reaching out to partner with more communities, already on four islands, talking with four more, all untouched by the gospel. The goal for 2023 is 2-5 more communities connected via this business. They are praying for beachheads of faith, then bodies of believers. Integrating into these Muslim communities means much travel and the recruiting of more church planters and disciple makers. They see how God has built the foundation of their business and are living in expectation of continued work with His protection, wisdom, and boldness to press forward.

- Pray that they would be able to scale up their business at the target pace and be able to expand the number of healthy partnerships.
- Pray for more national workers and a national church planting couple to join their team.
- Pray for J & J, church planters that have moved to the islands to bring leadership to the church planting effort.



# Tezar & Tatiana CHURCH PLANTING / INDONESIA

Children: Elena & Liam

Tezar, an Indonesian citizen from a Muslim background, came to faith as a student at the University of Memphis through Campus Outreach and served on their staff upon graduation. He wanted to use his gifts in evangelism and a heart for "re-pats", Indonesians like him who have lived and studied abroad but have returned to live in Indonesia, to plant a church in Jakarta. In 2015, Tezar and wife Tatiana moved to Jakarta and started Covenant City Church, a diverse, multi-cultural congregation with services in English, where Tezar is now pastor. Two years ago, they started a service in Bahasa, the Indonesian native language. As their church has grown, Tezar has started to develop staff, train elders and deacons and give overall direction to CCC. Tezar is working to develop a church structure that will benefit growth and discipleship of God's people.

- Pray that the officers and staff can work well together and stay united in their service.
- Pray that CCC will continue to grow, become self-sufficient, and sustain their growing needs.
- Pray that Tezar and Tatiana's young family will stay immersed in the Gospel as they shepherd this young church and grow into different seasons of life.

Additional Prayer Requests					

# **East Asia**

David & Aliece
Roger & Abi Lowther
Thomas & Jennifer McIntyre
Tim & Huilan
D. & L.
Debbie Pixley
Craig & Stacy Pohl
Jeff & Katie Saunders
Hannah
Enoch
Virginia



#### **David & Aliece**

#### THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION & CHRISTIAN COUNSELING

Children: Zebadiah, Zemirah, Ziera, Zetabel

Although David was trained as a software engineer, he felt a call to ministry in 2002. While they were in Philadelphia, Aliece earned her doctorate in clinical counseling. In 2009 David became part of the East Asia Partnership, serving as the Academic Dean of an in-country seminary. He later moved to the largest city in the region, where he now teaches through the week and preaches in local churches on Sundays. Demands and restrictions on pastors and house churches means that David spends a great deal of his time teaching in underground seminaries. Aliece runs the Tree of Life Counseling Center that provides counseling services and workshops to churches throughout their country. Aliece has also established a master's program in Biblical counseling.

- Pray for David as he travels from place-to-place teaching courses and providing discipleship teaching to local churches. Pray for his health and a for a good way to manage his workload and control his medical issues.
- Pray for Aliece as she expands her teaching to offer counseling classes within local churches this year.
- Pray that God would bless their family and other families who try to raise their children in a faith rejected by the government of their country.



# Roger & Abi Lowther CHURCH PLANTING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH / JAPAN

Children: Aidan, Eastin, Coen, Kaizen

As classically trained musicians, Roger and Abi felt led to use their musical talents to serve the Lord in Japan. Roger is the founder and director of Community Arts Tokyo, director of Faith & Art at Grace City Church Tokyo, and coordinator for the MAKE Collective, a global network of artists working in foreign missions. It has been a difficult year for their church with the sudden death of the pastor's eldest son, a beloved member, and the death of Roger's mother in the states. The effects of Covid-19 have also been hard on the congregation. Even with these sorrows they can praise the Lord that He is working in the hearts of nonbelievers and believers bringing them closer to Himself. They are thankful for the continued recovery of their eldest son Aidan from his bicycling accident in December 2021. They thank God for Ms. M., a visual artist, who shared her faith publicly for the first time and then shared with an art gallery owner and led her to faith in Christ.

- Pray for the Spirit's presence, humility, and healing as the church decides how to
  move forward and begin to search for a new pastor. Pray for grace and humility and
  love to be displayed among members as they recover from being online for two years.
- Pray for Abi and the Women's Bible study that she leads. Pray for the women to be bold in their witness and for strength to tell their family members about their new faith in Christ.
- Pray for Roger who is now leading the youth group at Grace City, that the youth would grow and mature in their faith and love for Jesus.



# Thomas & Jennifer McIntyre CHURCH PLANTERS AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH / TAIWAN

Children: Ashlee & Tyler

For over a decade, Thomas and Jennifer ministered at Sanhe Gospel Church in Zhongpu, Taiwan. With a new pastor on board and the church in good hands, Thomas and Jennifer moved their family to Xingang, an unreached town not far from Zhongpu, to plant a new church. They have gone door to door to meet their neighbors and have shared about their ministry at Xingang Presbyterian Church, the only established church in the area. They have befriended the village chief and the temple manager in hopes of introducing them to Christianity. They have also begun a simple park ministry on Sunday afternoons. A current priority is training and discipling their new Dutch co-workers Rik and Hester, whose friendship the McIntyres greatly enjoy despite their communication barriers. They pray God will give them a Bible study by this Spring but ultimately trust God's perfect timing as He builds this new ministry.

- Please pray for God to bless Ashlee and Tyler in their adjustment to a new town and school.
- Please pray that the Lord would soften the hearts of many in Xingang, that they would hear and respond to the Good News.
- Please pray that God would bless Rik and Hester's transition to Xingang as they learn the language and build relationships with nationals.



Tim & Huilan
LEADERSHIP TRAINING / TAIWAN

Children: Ethan, Micah, Cianna

Tim and Huilan moved to East Asia in 2010 to start a seminary in their city. Tim recruited teachers to teach on a variety of subjects like systematic theology, church history, biblical languages, and church planting. Tim is also helping create ordination exams for local house church pastors. This year, they started a new initiative the Center for House Church Theology, where Tim serves as a fellow. They are delighted that three missionary families are raising support and will move to different cities in their region in 2023. The total units in the region will then be 11, despite increasing religious persecution. They rejoice that one pastor, held in prison for a year, has been released and is now with his wife and family. Also, three new Parakaleo groups are starting (online and in person), to encourage spiritual growth for women. The political climate is shifting amid civil unrest, and as Covid-19 restrictions ease, they are hopeful for positive change in people's hearts. They are also glad that the book Faithful Disobedience, featuring the writings of many house church leaders, has been published, to teach and inspire other churches facing persecution.

- Praise that their coworkers have stayed safe and ask for continued protection and faithful service by the power of the Spirit.
- Pray for the new Parakaleo groups to start well and be blessed with the fruit of the Spirit and much good gospel growth.
- Pray for Tim's elderly mother, for provision and care, and for their children to know Christ and understand him more deeply.

#### D. & L.

#### LEADERSHIP TRAINING & MIDWIFERY / EAST ASIA

Children: Foster daughter B

D. trained with South West University for Nationalities with an emphasis on the mountain peoples of Middle Asia, and L. specialized in various branches of nursing, including brain skills for the learning disabled, neonatal resuscitation training, and evaluation for patients from the mountain regions. Their mission calling is to the mountain people of Central Asia and their focus is on building relationships through Bible studies, hospital visitations and medical consultations. They also equip and enable house church leaders. Despite travel restrictions, D. and L. continue to be engaged with locals through Discovery Bible Studies. D. has met with young men, investing in them, and teaching them how to facilitate Discovery Bible Studies, encouraging them to memorize Scripture, and asking them to find several other men to invest in. L. is meeting with women to study the Scripture and teaching them how to share DBS with others. The changing regulations due to Covid-19 have negatively impacted day to day life and necessities for many people. Amid this, God has been faithful to provide food, medication, and a willingness to reach out to help each other.

- Pray that amidst uncertainty with travel to the mountains and open borders, that the Lord will encourage them in their faith to remain strong and not lose hope.
- Pray for their foster daughter B., whom they are now homeschooling because the
  private school was not suitable for her needs. They have a few local teachers who are
  helping. Pray for B.'s continued ability to absorb information.
- Pray for renewal for their visas as more requirements were added that include investigating their company. Pray they will pass the "business test" and be given new visas for the coming year.



**Debbie Pixley**CHURCH PLANTING AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH / JAPAN

After working in Japan for many years as an automotive engineer, Debbie sensed the call to serve alongside a church in Tokyo in church planting. She has worked as a translator in several outreach capacities and found she has a great affinity for Japan and the Japanese people. However, Covid-19 and team/life changes led to her spending more time in the States to wait for God's direction. She recently spent two-weeks in Japan to help her make decisions in preparation for moving there in July 2023. She is completing her support team and determining her role once she can finally make the move she's been pursuing.

- Praise God for his faithfulness to see Debbie through unexpected detours on her way to serving in Japan.
- Pray for clear direction through her vision trip regarding what and where she will be serving.
- Pray for provision and preparation for her planned move later this year back to Japan.



# Craig & Stacy Pohl CHURCH PLANTER TRAINING / JAPAN

After spending 20 years ministering to the people of Ecuador and Chile, the Pohls felt the Lord working in their hearts regarding the people of Japan. Currently 1/2 of 1% of Japanese profess faith in Jesus Christ. So now they find themselves serving as interns living in a new culture and learning a new language. In fact, the Pohls are the answer God provided to their team leader who prayed for 8 years for a seasoned missionary couple to join his team. Called to serve at KM Grace Church near Tokyo, their church is the only one in their neighborhood of 35,000 people! Their full-time focus for 2023 is language study, yet already they are thankful to have been able in small ways to serve their church and others.

- Pray for their church to have total dependence on Christ as they grieve the passing of its founding pastor, and encourage their new pastor, Rev. Mark B. (the Pohls' team leader). Pray for growth in faith and numbers for the whole church of Japan.
- Pray for ability and aptitude to learn their new language. Pray that the Pohl family would have a Godly winsomeness in all their encounters and relationships.
- Pray for daughters, Karis and Aimee, attending Covenant College.



Jeff & Katie Saunders
STUDENT MINISTRY / JAPAN

Children: Emerie & Ezra

Jeff and Katie moved to Tokyo as part of a church planting effort and university ministry. Jeff has started the first RUF in Japan and Katie has a ministry to the moms from Emerie and Ezra's playgroup. Jeff and Katie minister to the 2nd largest unreached people group in the world. Outreach activities include home parties, sports outings, English classes, and Bible studies all focused on a non-Christian audience with outcomes both joyful and difficult. A 2022 survey showed that 35% of Japanese young people felt hopeless about their futures. They share poignant stories of Christ's work in one-on-one conversations such as friendship inquiries by the wife of a Buddhist priest, "T"s excitement over the "community of God," "M"s study of Luke and questions about "who Jesus really was," "R"s blossoming understanding of God's unconditional love, and "K"s inquiry about "how do I become a Christian."

- Pray for wisdom as Jeff and Katie navigate how, when, and where to meet these students and friends they love so dearly.
- Pray for God's help with delicate conversations with students and friends who may
  be ready to turn a corner to faith, and for God to instill a new sense of hope to
  frightened and uncertain students in Tokyo.
- Pray for their local church plant, Setagaya Grace Church, with their fellow missionaries. Since it has been years in the making, pray that it will be a place for their friends and neighbors can encounter the risen Christ and grow in love and knowledge of him.

#### Hannah

#### FIRST RESPONDER / OUTREACH AND MERCY MINISTRY / EAST ASIA

Hannah is now counting the joys that God has blessed her with as He has delayed her travel plans to reach her destination country. After a year of waiting to travel to the field as a first responder to a 2-year term, she can praise God that anything can happen because "anything has happened!". During her wait she was able to spend precious "Auntie" time with her newly born niece. She also attended the wedding of her dear friend and had good times with family and friends. Her language acquisition moved ahead in leaps and bounds. Such sweet gifts! God is so good. She is anticipating an early 2023 departure. Her days in the field will be divided between classroom teaching and volunteering with her team as they minister through several venues to at-risk children with special needs.

- Pray that Hannah's needs and the needs of her team would be met to God's glory, and that they would find and receive favor and blessing from the authorities.
- Pray for the joyful continuation and growth of her new language vocabulary, especially
  for those words relating to the hope and love of her message.
- Pray that she might be a good steward and that she would be transparent with her experiences. Pray that she would lean more and more into Jesus with unwavering faith and trust.

#### **Enoch**

#### STRATEGIC PARTNER / CHURCH PLANTER TRAINING & EQUIPPING

Spouse: Karen

Enoch serves as the International Director of the East Asia Partnership that provides church planter training, theological education, and pastoral mentoring and envisioning for the underground church in East Asia. Even with a government crackdown on house churches, Enoch continues to spend concentrated time mentoring and envisioning house church leaders from his base in the U.S. Weekly reports of arrests, harassment, and the seizure and closure of church property continue, which weigh heavily on Enoch's heart. Every pastor and pastoral candidate knows the reality of impending arrest. In fact, the standard 5-day jail sentence for being caught preaching is coming to be viewed as part of the pastoral training program. He also helped establish the Leadership Institute using three different cohorts to help train East Asian pastors to better shepherd their congregations with open arms by making Christ clearer and more real to them.

- Pray for the Partnership to raise up the next generation of leaders by taking 150 pastors through the Leadership Institute.
- Pray for the gospel movement in China to double in size and impact through 150 new church plants, 500 new churches experiencing gospel renewal and 1,500 new leaders trained.
- Pray they could raise up indigenous leaders who would take the reins of the prayer ministry in their local churches. Pray for this prayer ministry to multiply and take root.

#### **Virginia**

#### THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION & DISCIPLESHIP / EAST ASIA

Virginia is a citizen of East Asia with degrees in linguistics, law, theology, and Reformed worship. She moved to East Asia in 2015 to teach at the Western China Covenant Theological Seminary, then moved to her country's largest city in 2018 to teach a network of emerging church leaders. Over the past year, local churches offering on-site worship have grown, attracting new converts and members from churches continuing to meet online. Last semester was extremely busy for Virginia, as she taught an unprecedented number of students, offered more courses than ever before, and had frequent one-on-one consultations with her students and church leaders. God has heard Virginia's prayers for her apartment to be used for His good. She has been able to host women who clean her building when they have not been allowed to return home due to unpredictable Covid-19 lockdowns. She is excited to host a returning missionary this year. Virginia has also been greatly blessed by opportunities to build relationships with and encourage her neighbors and security guards in her building.

- Current student enrollment creates greater need for larger and more convenient venues for classes. Pray for the venues and more churches that are willing to open their premises for these courses.
- Please pray that the Lord would allow His church in East Asia to flourish and draw many new believers to Himself.
- Please pray that Virginia would draw her strength from the Lord as her teaching and counseling demands increase.

# **Additional Prayer Requests**

# Central / South Asia

Jonathan
Raju
Arman Arenbayev
Allison
Dan & Catherine
Silas & Zoe
Paul & Jackie
Ruslan & Zhanna
The Youngs





# Jonathan LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT / SOUTH ASIA

Spouse: Sharon; Children: Alicia, Gia, Priya

Jonathan works with non-government organizations and the UN to provide Christian leadership training to both pastors and civic leaders in his region. The trauma of the pandemic has provided many conversations about loss, forgiveness, and hope in Christ. He recently finished a spiritual formation class, and one of their themes focused on allowing God to identify and change the narratives of our lives, as well as allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us into truth through Christ's narrative. He and Sharon have helped launch Harbour International School, which is slowly growing. This provides a great way to meet families outside their normal circles. Sharon is working on her MA and is enjoying teaching Hindi. They praise God that after three years, their adoption of Priya has been finalized. This past year a strict anti-conversion law was passed by their local government and a nearby pastor was arrested for "converting." So they continue to face opposition to their faith by both society and government officials.

- Pray for wisdom for their church and others nearby, that they would remain faithful while living under this restrictive new law.
- Pray for the new families joining Harbour School, for positive educational experiences and life-giving relationships with all their staff.
- Pray for the leaders and students who receive instruction and care from Jonny and Sharon, that the grace and truth of the gospel would grow ever stronger in them.



Raju
PHYSICIAN & CHURCH PLANTER LEADER / SOUTH ASIA

Spouse: Catherine

For over 16 years, Second has partnered with Raju and Catherine in their ministry to the poor and marginalized in South Asia. Teams have assisted with women's conferences, trained church planters and leaders, and provided physicians to perform surgeries and administer medical care at their hospital. With the hospital in Shankar's capable hands, Raju is still involved in training pastors, equipping church planters, and helping to mobilize a nationwide prayer movement throughout India. Raju is also doing in-person training for a home-based care ministry in conjunction with eight mission hospitals. This ministry utilizes nurses and church planters to take healthcare and the gospel into people's homes, serving many who are otherwise unable to get care or hear the gospel.

- Pray for the courage to stay strong under persecution and that the gospel would be advanced throughout all of South India, especially in their state.
- Pray for their evangelism and prayer initiatives to be fruitful and draw many to Christ.
- Pray for Shankar and Blodwyn, and Dr. George and Stella, as they keep the hospital going strong. Pray for safety for the staff as another nearby hospital had 29 staff members arrested on spurious charges.



# Arman Arenbayev STRATEGIC PARTNER & PASTOR / CENTRAL ASIA

Spouse: Marina; Children: Artur, Amir, Miya

Arman Arenbayev serves as the pastor of Almagul Church in Almaty, Kazakhstan, as well as the Stated Clerk of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Kazakhstan. Almagul Church has weathered the complexities of the past two years and is now seeking to reestablish healthy patterns of worship, discipleship, and outreach. Arman has relaunched in person adult Sunday school with a class on church history and he continues his Third Mill training for church leaders. Last December they held a commissioning service for a team of Almagul members who have a vision for planting a new church. The Rock Church is the first new church planted by Almagul in over 20 years and they held their first outreach service on Christmas Day. Arman is also helping lead the young denomination into further church planting in the north of Kazakhstan.

- Pray as Arman completes his 12th year as pastor of Almagul Church, that God would give him wisdom and insight to preach, teach, and lead his flock.
- Pray that God would give Arman diplomacy to both encourage each church in the
  presbytery and to build unity and momentum for existing and new ministries.
- Pray for him as he participates in a new international forum for pastors and Islamic leaders. Pray that he would both be able to be a faithful witness and a wise bridge builder.



Allison
MEDICAL TRAINING / RELATIONAL EVANGELISM /
CENTRAL ASIA

Having grown up in Central Asia, Allison is delighted that the Lord is guiding her to minister in that part of the world. Later this year Allison will be moving to Central Asia to use her training as an occupational therapist as a platform for sharing the love of Jesus. The need for occupational therapists is great in a place where the ability to aid in physical restoration and daily life skills are often left to family members. Allison will partner with a local church as she builds friendships with believers and seeks to befriend those who do not yet know Christ. Although Allison is fluent in Russian, the commercial language of her country, she is studying to learn the heart language of the people to engage with them more fully.

- Pray for the Lord to draw Allison's heart close to His as she prepares to move to Central Asia.
- Pray for the existing ministries to families of children with special needs in her city, that they would be equipped to serve and love these families and that Allison would be able to equip and resources these ministries.
- Pray for the Lord to help Allison both engage in medical work and mercy ministry while seeking to learn the local language.



# Dan & Catherine LEADERSHIP TRAINING / CENTRAL ASIA

Dan and Catherine Burns will be returning to Central Asia after 12 years here at Second. Although they initially went to Central Asia as church planters in 1993, they are now returning to help train and equip the next generation of church leaders. They will serve through World Outreach's International Theological Education Network, building out a network of church-based training centers in a number of regional hubs. While Dan served as the senior pastor of the developing network of churches in the Evangelical Reformed Church of Central Asia back in the day, he will now serve under those pastors, equipping their disciples with tools to study and teach the Bible. Catherine will support the Capernaum Ministry regionally, both through teaching Theology of Disability courses and by supporting and coaching their staff.

- Pray that God would bless Dan and Catherine through their transition out of pastoral ministry at Second and into field life in Central Asia.
- Pray that God would bless their reconnection with both long-time ministry partners and new workers who have started in the past few years.
- Pray for the next generation of leaders, that they would grow in their knowledge of God and compassion for His people, and that Dan and Catherine would be able to encourage and support these leaders.



Silas & Zoe
BIBLE TRANSLATION / CENTRAL ASIA

Children: Amos, Yael, Ruth

Late last year, Silas, Zoe and their 3 pre-school children returned to Central Asia to continue their ministry of translating the Bible into their native language of an unengaged people group. They are now studying the primary language of their country of service as well as the heart language of the national people group. They are grateful that the Lord has given them a special relationship with Naomi, a local citizen who helps them in their home and communicates with their 3 small children in local "baby talk." Silas and Zoe are aware of the many challenges that the nationals face. Divorce rates are high and familial relationships are strained since many men leave home to seek jobs in Russia. Simultaneously, they have experienced the kindness and gentle temperaments of the nationals. They look forward to future opportunities share gospel hope with these dear people.

- Pray for language learning: for wisdom, good memory, opportunities to practice, and discipline for planning and reviewing lessons.
- Pray that Naomi and her family will come to know the love and mercy of God and the fullness of life found in a Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the Lord to open doors in a closed country so that their team members can join them in translation ministry.



# Paul & Jackie SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY & CHURCH PLANTING / CENTRAL ASIA

The Lord has opened a door for Paul and Jackie to serve in Central Asia, ministering to special needs children and teens and to their parents. In a culture that marginalizes the disabled, they are joining a team that teaches these kids that they are valued by God and are precious in His sight. Since most of these children come from single parent homes, Paul wants to build relationships with them so that they will have a male role model whose strength and joy is in the Lord. Jackie desires to use her teaching gifts to share gospel hope with teens and parents alike. Until they are deployed this summer, they continue to minister to international students at U of M. Paul is working with kids in Young Life Capernaum and Shine. Jackie is finishing her master's in biblical studies at RTS.

- Pray that God would bless and guide Paul and Jackie as the move to Central Asia, connect with a new team, and begin language study and ministry.
- Pray for the Lord to give Jackie and Paul diligence and bless their time in the U.S. this spring.
- Pray that the Lord will use Paul and Jackie to bear eternal fruit among the people whom they serve, both in the U.S. and in Central Asia.



# Rusian & Zhanna STRATEGIC PARTNER / YOUNG LIFE CENTRAL ASIA & CAPERNAUM MINISTRY / CENTRAL ASIA

Children: Rostic, Danislav, Odelia, Gloria

Ruslan began ministry in 1998 while serving as an intern with Almagul Church. What began as an experiment with a few kids has turned into a movement in more than 20 cities and 5 countries. Ruslan serves as the regional director of Young Life Central Asia. In close partnership with Central Asian churches, Ruslan organizes youth clubs, summer and winter camps, and outreach events. Zhanna launched her mercy ministry in 1999, seeking to show the love of Christ to children with cerebral palsy. She is now the director of the Capernaum Ministry for the Former Soviet Union, organizing clubs, camps, and events for kids with special needs, and trains churches in ministering to families seeking to care for their children. Ruslan and Zhanna now train and support area and country directors throughout their region equipping them for ministry. While Zhanna has overseen Capernaum staff in Russia, Ukraine, and Armenia, the war in the Ukraine has made this much more complex. This ministry of compassion is opening doors in closed areas by building bridges across cultures through the power of the gospel. They recently helped launch a new church in Almaty, a church designed to draw new youth and their families into fellowship.

- Please pray that the power of the gospel would draw new believers to Christ in these countries greatly affected by war.
- Please pray that the Holy Spirit would encourage Ruslan and Zhanna in their faith as they carry the Good News throughout Central Asia.
- Please pray for God to use Ruslan and Zhanna to mobilize volunteers so that young people of all abilities would meet Christ.



# The Youngs CHURCH PLANTERS AND AREA DIRECTORS / SOUTH ASIA

The Youngs serve as area directors supporting teams and workers in often difficult and religiously closed countries. Last year, they moved to a new South Asian city with an international airport and better medical facilities. This is a new priority following J's emergency brain surgery last year. They are starting to feel more and more settled into their new location which as been described as "a very hot city in the desert of South Asia". Along with many others they have appreciated the in-person meetings and conferences of 2022 that allowed them to reconnect with colleagues, friends, and people they have served and mentored. The Youngs tell of a young student friend they had previously helped who spent 2 hours using various forms of public transportation to get to worship! They have recently connected with a church in their new home city to continue developing a network of local relationships.

- Pray that the Lord would powerfully move in each area of the world they represent, especially among the Bengali's, one of the world's most unreached people groups.
- Pray that Jesus would show the way to open hearts to Him through connections the Youngs have in cities that severely restrict Christian outreach and church activity.
- Pray that God would raise up more laborers for the harvest in the Middle East and Asia.

# Middle East

Jamila
Aileen
Sameh & Samah
M. & Sarah
Robby & Joyce
Cierra
Herb & Heather
Mike & Stephanie
Greg & Elizabeth
Aaron & Katie
Brian & Joanne
Haley
Sheridan
Nick & Amanda





Jamila
FIRST RESPONDER: ESL TEACHING / MIDDLE EAST

Jamila exudes joy in the Lord and confidence in His plan for her. Last year, after doors closed for her to teach in East Asia, Jamila saw God's faithfulness as He led her to the Middle East to teach English there. Jamila joined the team at Global English Institute where she serves as Social Media Coordinator and teaches beginner level English. She reports, "the reward of bringing people from zero [English] to novice is like catching the exact moment that a flower blooms." To better serve her students, Jamila is learning both Arabic and Kurdish. She is currently studying the Bible with three of her students. One student told Jamila, "My life is everyday black [and] darkness, but when you come to my home, there is light. I feel it." Jamila leans heavily on the Lord and His light in a place where darkness prevails.

- Pray that the Lord would sustain Jamila and her team as they bring the light of the gospel to people who walk in darkness.
- Pray for the spirit of heaviness that the team feels would be removed and replaced by one of unity and renewed "fuel" for their work.
- Pray that the women whose lives Jamila has touched would come to salvation in Jesus.



Aileen
STRATEGIC PARTNER / NURSE / MIDDLE EAST

Aileen's service to the Bedouin people as a nurse began in 1965 when she co-founded the Annoor Sanatorium in Mafraq with Dr. Eleanor Soltau. Aileen serves the Bedouin of Jordan and the surrounding region at Annoor Sanatorium. The sanatorium treats tuberculosis specifically, often as a last resort treatment facility, but the staff serve the people in many other ways as well. Aileen has spent most of her life there and recently wrote of the babies she has cared for after their mothers died in childbirth. Now they are grown, married, and have children of their own who are healthy and thriving. At 92, she recently cared for a severely malnourish 9-month-old baby girl, Noor, who weighed 7 pounds when Aileen found her. Now this little girl is back home and healthy. While Aileen claims that Noor would be her last baby to care for, she keeps a crib in her room, just in case.

- Pray that Aileen's ongoing witness at Annoor Sanatorium would lead to gospel faith in the Bedouin people.
- Praise God for a couple from England who have relocated to Jordan to provide respite and emotional care for handicapped children. Pray that God would bless their ministry.
- Please pray for a long-term doctor to join their clinic in southeast Jordan, so it can be
  open for more than one day a week.

# Sameh & Samah NATIONAL PARTNERS / MIDDLE EAST

Sameh and Samah are graduates of Arab Baptist Theological Seminary. Sameh is Christian background Egyptian while Samah (the wife) is Muslim background Egyptian. Their marriage and Sameh's fatherhood of their son Selim is not legally recognized in Egypt. In 2017, they moved to Brazil where Selim received citizenship due to his birth in Brazil, and where Sameh and Samah later received Brazilian citizenship. Having Brazilian citizenship enabled them to return to the Middles East where they are serving in discipleship ministry at Resurrection Church, leading "spiritual tribes" and where Sameh is leading the youth ministry. He also leads the online ministry for the church, which mirrors the physical church in everything it offers. They continue to connect and walk beside local believers through friendship and discipleship at a Bedouin church on the border. They have empowered the local leaders who grow in faith to multiply the house churches and hope to start new meetings for women, youth, and children.

- Pray for continued growth, both spiritually and in number at Resurrection church, and that many unbelievers would come to their church and become followers of Jesus.
- Pray for their son Selim, who has behavioral and learning challenges. Pray for the speech therapist and shadow teacher to help Selim overcome these challenges.
- Pray for the Bedouin outreach, for local leaders to grow and step out in faith to plant house churches, and for new leaders to be raised up and trained.

#### M. & Sarah

#### THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION / MIDDLE EAST

At 20 years old, M. fled his native country and became a refugee in Greece. He visited a church where he heard the gospel for the first time. He met a group of short-term missionaries from Canada, and through them became a believer. When he started attending Bible studies, he realized the teachers didn't know their Bibles that well, so he joined the Athens Intensive Ministry School. When his brother in the Middle East became a believer and asked where he could learn more, M. felt a burden for Biblical education for his fellow citizens. In Athens he spent two years as a pastor, then went to Canada to work with a mission serving other refugees. It was there he met Sarah, who had just returned from serving overseas. They married and in 2011 left for a strategic Middle Eastern country where they started a Bible discipleship school to help educate the underground church in their country. They have seen over 50 graduates, some of whom returned to their home country to plant churches.

- Pray that the students could complete their studies, while experiencing both turmoil in their home country and a huge earthquake in their current one.
- Pray for Sarah as she undergoes chemotherapy treatments in the coming months.
   Pray for mild side effects and for the strength and stamina she needs each day.
- Pray that God would bless them with enough visiting teachers and that God would bless the development of their online platform.



# Robby & Joyce GROW PROJECT EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS / U.S. BASED – LEBANON

Robby and Joyce lead The Philemon Project in Lebanon, a early childhood center that provides low cost education to underserved families in Beirut. They fight food insecurity by providing two meals and two snacks a day, gender discrimination by empowering its all-female staff, and child labor and trafficking by educating and caring for those most at risk. They also assist church planting efforts by donating materials and facilities to local church planters. They are thrilled to report that despite the economic collapse in Lebanon, they have been able to purchase a second building for another center and are in the final stages of registering. They hope to begin renovations soon and open in the summer of 2023. Joyce is their new co-executive director for the all-female staff, and along with Mireille, will be continuing the gospel impact of the center on the families of Beirut.

- Pray for their staff transition, as they say goodbye to their long-time Site Manager and welcome Joyce as their new co-executive director.
- Pray for a smooth completion of the building registration for the second Grow Center in Beirut.
- Pray for the families they serve in Beirut, that God would provide for them and that his love would draw many to faith in Christ.



Cierra
REFUGEE MINISTRY / MIDDLE EAST

Our newest mission partner, Cierra is a member of Second's daughter church, The Avenue, and is preparing to join the Engage 2025 team in the Middle East. Cierra grew up in North Carolina, then after graduating college, moved to Memphis to work with World Relief to help resettle refugees. She has had an interest in working with Muslims since she was young. She was captivated by a novel that introduced her to this world in Middle School and has been led by God to pursue this calling in numerous ways over the years. Cierra participated in EPC/WO's Mission Cohort as a college student and travelled to Michigan, California, and Jordan. In each of these spaces she grew in her knowledge of other cultures, expanded her understanding of the Islamic faith, and gained a deeper burden for lost souls. She hopes to move to the Middle East this summer. Cierra will work hard on learning language and growing in cultural understanding to be able to serve Syrian refugees there.

- Pray for Cierra as she learns the language and gains a cultural understanding of her new country.
- Pray for good team cohesion and unity, and for Cierra to quickly feel like a member of the team who can use her God given gifts for His glory.
- Pray for the Engage 2025 team as they help refugees navigate their grief following the earthquake that occurred near their homeland.



# Herb & Heather ADMINISTRATOR & NURSE / ANNOOR SANATORIUM

Herb and Heather work at Annoor Sanatorium treating tuberculosis among the Bedouin. Currently, less than half of the patients are Jordanian, and Bedouins are only a percentage of that number. They serve patients from Yemen to Sudan and all over the Middle East. Although there is a much smaller percentage of Bedouins in their clinic, they have a team in Ras An Naqab and a mobile dental unit that serves the isolated Bedouin communities. After pursuing approval of new residence permits daily for the past year and a half, Annoor was recently granted new residence permits for 19 volunteers. Many believed the volunteer ministry would never open, and this approval may be the first granted by the government since regulations changed in 2021. The remaining document to provide medical and other services has been sent to the Prime Minister's office for implementation.

- Pray that the work of the Sanatorium would be effective in engaging the Bedouin, who are still an unreached people group.
- Pray for unity among the staff members and volunteers as they serve the Lord together.
- Pray that the patients whom they serve, both in the hospital and in the clinic, would be receptive to the Gospel and receive salvation.



Mike and Stephanie
TEACHER AND ITEN SPECIALISTS / U.S. BASED

Having served as missionaries and educators in the Muslim world for many years, Mike and Stephanie have a passion for training Arabic speaking believers. Mike, who is fluent in Arabic and is a gifted teacher, leads the EPC World Outreach's ITEN, International Theological Educational Network. Our own Dan Burns will work with Mike in this network when he and Catherine return to Central Asia this summer. Mike began 2023 deep in the interior of Sierra Leone, one of the poorest countries in the world. Mike went there to train pastors in the Evangelical Presbyterian Churches of Sierra Leone who had moved from the highly Christian coastal area to the predominantly Muslim interior to plant churches. While these pastors face deep poverty, they are not poor in vision or God's glory in their country. Mike's teaching gave them tools to equip them in this gospel vision.

- Pray that the Lord would bring salvation to the people of Sierra Leone.
- Pray for the Lord to continue to equip Mike to teach and for the Lord to open doors in other places for training.
- Pray for Stephanie, who works in educational assessment, that God would use her to help develop effective teaching strategies and curriculum.



# Greg & Elizabeth CHURCH PLANTING / MIDDLE EAST

Children: Hermione, Naomi, Silas

After a long season in the U.S. because of Covid-19, their country's economic meltdown, and the birth of twins last February, the Mooks have finally returned to the Middle East. They picked up where they left off with their church and their ministry to Syrian refugees. One part of their ministry is providing work to Syrian women by teaching them to make blankets from yarn the EPC provides. These blankets are then distributed by the EPC to refugees in the Bekaa Valley, where it gets very cold, and sometimes into Syria itself. This year, they were able to distribute 26 bags of yarn—the first in a long time—to add to the hundreds of blankets already made and distributed. They are also grateful for five new team members from Australia!

- Pray for their continued transition back into the Middle East with three little ones.
- Pray for their team as they get used to the dynamics of a bigger group (and get used to some cool Aussie accents!).
- Pray that the hope of Jesus would fill the hearts of those in despair as Greg and Elizabeth reach out with the light and love of the gospel.

#### **Aaron & Katie**

REFUGEE MINISTRY / MIDDLE EAST

Children: Ethan, Caleb, Jack, Aiden Jude

New mission partners, Aaron and Katie are members of Second's daughter church, The Avenue. As children of missionaries, both Aaron and Katie knew that they wanted to serve the Lord overseas. They are grateful for the Lord's clear call to work among Muslims in the Middle East. They are hoping to go to the Middle East later this year to work with refugees. Late last year, Aaron travelled to their country of service and saw the huge need to help displaced people. He was able to join a ministry team on home visits and listen to the refugees' stories. He saw that they were truly "like sheep without a shepherd." Aaron came home with an even greater zeal to tell hurting people the good news of salvation in Jesus while helping to meet their practical needs.

- Pray for Aaron & Katie to be diligent as they complete their support team. Pray they will see the Lord's provision for all their needs and details for their move.
- Pray that pursuing Jesus in the midst very busy schedules would remain their priority as they prepare to go on the field.
- Pray for their four young boys in the process, for seeds of faith to be planted in their hearts and for great stability for them in this time of change.



# Brian & Joanne CHURCH PLANTERS / ARAB GULF

Brian and Joanne continue to minister at Covenant Hope Church in the Arab Gulf. They are greatly encouraged by many new visitors they have had since Covid-19 subsided. Brian has enjoyed preaching through the book of John in his latest sermon series. Recently Brian attended the All-India Pastors Conference, where several hundred pastors gathered to learn more about the Biblical view of missions. Brian also taught two preaching workshops in west Africa, which were attended by 110 pastors. Brian and Joanne traveled back to the United States this past summer, where they were able to visit family and participate in a think tank with 50 other global missionaries about keeping world missions on a Biblical track. Covenant Hope Church currently has two new interns from India and Nepal. They are eager to learn, and Brian has enjoyed discipling and training these brothers in Christ.

- Pray that the Lord would lead many in the Arab world to faith through Brian and Joanne's efforts at Covenant Hope Church.
- Pray for Brian's friend David, a man who has attended worship services for years with his wife, who is a believer. Please pray for David's salvation.
- Continue to pray for Susan, who has experienced religious oppression from her family and continues to share the gospel with her brother.



Haley
NURSE / MIDDLE EAST

Haley has been serving the Lord for almost 4 years now at the Annoor Sanatorium for Chest Disease. She is so grateful that her beloved parents were able to visit her and her "desert family" and that she was able to be stateside in October and November of 2022. Her life is packed full of sorrow and pain and yet also full of rejoicing and worship. Haley tells about nursing a patient in his last moments and how this specific case showed her that Jesus is not immune to her patient's pain. For Jesus Himself has experienced on the cross that agonizing struggle to take His next breath. She found the humanity of Christ to be more divine than ever as He shows Himself to be God with us.

- Pray for favor for the Sanatorium in the eyes of the Jordanian government.
- Pray that the Sanatorium staff could continue to provide compassionate care as a means of introducing people to the truth about God's Son.
- Pray for the stronghold of addiction in the Bedouin community to be broken.

## Sheridan OUTREACH / MIDDLE EAST

Sheridan has just wrapped up her first year on the field in the Middle East. During her time overseas she engaged in intensive language study and relationship building with locals. She served in two different Middle Eastern countries, worked with two different ministries, and had different functions on each ministry team. It was a wonderful time of spiritual growth as she saw the immense need for the Gospel in a place where there is no church. Now back in the United States Sheridan is planning to return to the field for long-term service as soon as she can. In the meantime, she is seeking the Lord's guidance on the best way to return to a closed country in the Arab world.

- Pray for the Lord to give Sheridan clear direction for future service and for Sheridan to trust Him completely.
- Pray for Sheridan's family as they minister to Sheridan's mother who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Pray for the Lord's peace for her mother.
- Pray for radical revival in the Arab world and the Spirit with flow through the desert like a river.



Nick & Amanda
CHURCH PLANTING / MIDDLE EAST
Children: Ellie, Hazel, Gus, Everett

Nick and Amanda lead a church planting team in the Middle East in a country where 15% of the population are Muslim refugees. They have established relationships with some of these displaced people, showing them the love of Jesus as they care for their physical and emotional needs. This practical ministry has allowed them to share the hope of the gospel as they open His word with their friends. After their return from the States last year, Nick and Amanda are grateful for their reconnection with their Muslim friends and for the provision of new teammates from Australia and from Memphis. They hope that the Lord will use the various gifts of their team to reflect the love of Jesus, bring many to saving faith, and help establish His church in the Middle East.

- Pray that the Lord will fill Nick and Amanda with His Spirit as they lead their team and bless their efforts in church planting.
- Pray for the Lord to bring stability, relief, and restoration to their city and its citizens.
- Pray that many Muslim refugees would hear the gospel, turn to Christ and receive salvation.

# Europe

Leonardo Di Chirico
Hans & Carolein Euser
Rob & Tunde Futo
Chris & Debbie Gibson
Adam & DeAnna Hoyt
Giotis Kantartzis
Stephen & Belinda Kelley
Leslie
Norm & Ruth Ann Leduc
Valery & Janna Morozov
Meghan Rintoul
George Tolias
Theo Visser





Leonardo Di Chirico
STRATEGIC PARTNER / CHURCH PLANTER / ITALY

Spouse: Valeria

Leonardo serves as the pastor of Breccia di Roma, a church planting church in the heart of Rome, Italy. Leonardo both has helped launch two daughter churches that are engaging key regions in their city, as well as continued to train church planting residents with a vision to engaging new districts in Rome. Leonardo teaches locally and internationally, has published several books and academic articles, and has recently published *Same Words, Different Worlds*. This new book addresses the key distinctions between the historic Protestant faith and the Roman church. Leonardo is a theological leader among evangelicals in Europe who speaks both from the church and in the academy to promote healthy engagement by the church of their Italian community.

- Pray that the Lord would continue to bless Leonardo in his role as pastor of Breccia di Roma, that the historic gospel might continue to be proclaimed in the heart of Rome.
- Pray for the church plants in key districts of the city, that the new church leaders might be able to establish communities of faith in each district in Rome.
- Pray for Leonardo's writing of books and articles, that his works might be used to equip church leaders in effectively proclaiming the gospel in the Roman world.



## Hans & Carolein Euser STRATEGIC PARTNER / INTERCULTURAL CHURCH PLANTING / NETHERLANDS

Hans serves as the director of the Intercultural Church Plants in the Netherlands (ICP NL). This ministry began as one intercultural church in 2000 and has now grown to a network of over 30 churches with a vision for establishing 1 intercultural church plant for every 10,000 immigrants from a non-Dutch background. That would be over 400 churches just in the Netherlands! Hans seeks to cast vision, equip, and coach new church planters through training conferences and church planter cohorts in order to expand the reach of these young churches. This year Hans plans to launch a training on racism in the church, a program for small groups ready to delve into the social problem of racism and how the church in the Netherlands has both struggled and can grow in this area.

- Pray for Hans as he continues to train and coach intercultural church plants seeking to live out this vision in the Netherlands.
- Pray for the work of Songs 2 Serve and the various worship teams that seek to develop and expand multi-cultural music to serve these churches.
- Pray for the "Racism in the Church" program that will be launched this year, as it seeks to guide the church into speaking into this delicate issue in the Netherlands.



#### Rob & Tunde Futo CHURCH PLANTERS / HUNGARY

Rob and Tunde arrived in Hungary right at the turn of the millennium. After more than a decade of outreach ministry and teaching, in 2015 Rob planted Cornerstone Church in the heart of Budapest. Rob serves as head pastor and feels called to continue planting churches. With so few faithful seminaries in Hungary, Rob has to do much pastoral training on his own. Recently he started a preacher's club with seven men in an effort to prepare them for ministry. He is also working on a church planting team to plant two new churches. Although this is something they have talked about doing for years, it is still frightening to begin the process. Their youth program also continues to grow. Tunde is the church's worship leader and leader of 3 small groups. Tunde conducts the choir and prepares for concerts throughout year. She recently completed her Master of Arts in Counseling at Westminster Theological Seminary.

- Pray for Rob's preacher's club, for a spirit of humility and encouragement as they speak into each other's sermons. Pray they can be honest and helpful, not hurtful, with their feedback.
- Pray that in all the details, discussions, and conflicts that are part of the process of planting a new church, God would grant the wisdom, love, and understanding that would allow the ministry to move forward.
- Pray for Tunde as she leads the church worship, that it would be glorifying to the Lord and that the small groups she leads would grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord.



Chris & Debbie Gibson MISSIONARY CARE / HUNGARY

Chris and Debbie serve EPC/WO and Ministries Essentials International through Sunrise House in Budapest. Sunrise House is a ministry and counseling center where the Gibsons provide counseling, prayer, and a quiet space for missionaries and their families. Chris and Debbie rely on the Lord to provide supernatural wisdom to discern each need, as well as the grace and mercy to minister effectively in many contexts. They frequently encounter missionaries facing stress and tension in their marriages, burnout, and a sense of being overwhelmed by the demands of their ministry. Chris also preaches regularly at Danube International Church. Recently they have ministered to Ukrainian refugees alongside the local church. They continue to be involved in providing resources such as clothing, food, shelter, and medical supplies, with the help of their ministry partners and their Ukrainian connections in eastern Europe.

- Pray for spiritual refreshment and encouragement from the Holy Spirit for Chris, Debbie, and the missionaries they faithfully serve.
- Pray for Debbie, Chris, and their cohorts as they work toward completing a year-long course on formational prayer.
- Pray for wisdom and healing for Chris as he recovers from hip replacement surgery.



Adam & DeAnna Hoyt
CAMPUS OUTREACH SERVE / ENGLAND

Child: Hallie

Adam Hoyt and DeAnna Deere had been heading in very different directions when the Lord brought them together. Adam was preparing to return to India, where he had served for 3 years in cross cultural mission work. DeAnna was preparing to join the LEAD team with Campus Outreach in Lusaka, Zambia. When the Lord called them together as a couple, they had a lot of figuring to do! After 2 years of prayer and seeking God's direction, they have discerned that God has called them to this new work in Birmingham, England. They saw an alignment of strategy on the mission field, a healthy team, and a local church to integrate into. They also saw an intersection of a place where they could raise a family with a place that had high potential impact to engage unreached people. Students in Birmingham come from places like Pakistan, Iraq, North Africa, and other areas of the 10/40 window. They look forward to living in the Muslim community in Birmingham, building relationships with students, and sharing Christ with those who have not heard. They pray that God would save many and send them out as His disciples to some of the most unreached places on the globe.

- Pray for Adam and DeAnna as they transition away from Memphis to life in a new country, different from the countries where they originally intended to serve.
- Pray that God would grant them understanding and insight into the lives and hearts
  of the international students they will serve.
- Pray that God would give them grace with each other as they experience the stress of moving to a new culture as a new family.



**Giotis Kantartzis**STRATEGIC PARTNER / CHURCH PLANTING / GREECE

Spouse: Nopi

Giotis is the pastor of the First Evangelical Church of Athens and the founding pastor of the Athens Church Planting network. His first generation of church planters, including George Tolias, have already established churches that are beginning to plant their own daughter churches. Most of the church plants also engage in some form of mercy ministry, serving the under-resourced in their communities and helping refugees transition into and sometimes through Greece. For the past several years Giotis has been working to establish a church planting hub for the Balkans, inviting church leaders from neighboring countries to learn about and consider engaging in urban church planting. This year he is seeking to further expand his Evangelical Center for the Study of Orthodox Christianity, that churches throughout the Balkans might better equipped to minister in their Eastern Orthodox contexts.

- Pray that Giotis might faithfully lead his church into a city-facing posture, so that his congregation would be equipped and motivated to serve the city of Athens.
- Pray that Giotis would be effective in coaching, encouraging, and equipping church planters within his network.
- Pray that God would bless Giotis' efforts to build a team of churches throughout the Balkans that would engage their cities with church planting movements.



#### Stephen & Belinda Kelley REFUGEE OUTREACH MINISTRY / EUROPE

Stephen's Egyptian heritage has given him a passion for sharing Christ with Muslims. In 2013, Stephen started the European Training Center which provides Biblical discipleship training for leaders from Muslim backgrounds. Stephen also serves with EPC/WO, heading up their refugee ministry in Europe and recruiting Arabic and Kurdish speakers to help with the relief work. The last four years have been difficult as Belinda has struggled through various illnesses and surgeries. Recently, Belinda had a mini stroke and is continuing her physical therapy and other treatments related to the stroke. Stephen is often overwhelmed as he juggles supporting Belinda along with his many ministry and administrative responsibilities. Through all this, he has still been able to make several trips this past year to meet with leaders and ETC students and teach Muslim background believers throughout the Middle East.

- Pray for Belinda's continued recovery from the mini stroke and its complications and for her health to be stable and settled.
- Pray for Stephen to be an encouragement to those he meets and for his teaching and speaking to build a bridge between Arab and Iranian Christians.
- Pray for the ETC students to grow more deeply in their walk with the Lord and for the ETC leaders and teachers to rely on the Holy Spirit in all they do.



Leslie TEAM COACH / GERMANY

Spouse: Eckehard; Child: Corinna

Leslie works with Greater Europe Mission (GEM), coaching new missionaries as they arrive in Germany. She helps them develop healthy and holy work/life rhythms and helps families with children get acclimated to German culture. She often travels between Frankfurt and Berlin to help these new families adjust to life in a new country. Recently Leslie's team on the German field met for their annual retreat, where 75 people, including children, were present. The retreat was a wonderful opportunity to meet and connect with new staff. Many Ukrainians have sought refuge in Germany, and Leslie's church has welcomed 75 refugees. Most are living with families in the church, receiving basic necessities, and learning basic German. Please pray that these refugees might experience the love of Christ through Leslie's church family and that God would continue to bless GEM's ministry in Germany.

- Pray that the Lord would continue to bless new missionaries as they acclimate to the German culture, and that Leslie could effectively coach them through their initial language and cultural understanding phases.
- Pray that God would bless Leslie and Eckehard as they parent Corinna, that she might grow in her knowledge and love of the Lord.
- Pray that the Lord would continue to draw new missionaries to the European mission field.



## Norm & Ruth Ann Leduc ARAB WORLD MEDIA DIRECTOR AND PIONEERS TEAM LEADERS / FRANCE

The Leducs are enjoying France and are so grateful for the face-to-face engagements that they can have because of the Lord's moving them back to Europe. Their daily life now consists of many Zoom meetings - for Norm there are conversations with media colleagues and for Ruth Ann- workers across Europe. She feels honored to engage in field-base member care. They praise God that last year thru Arab World Media they learned of 229 professions of faith. In eager anticipation the Leducs are looking to God to provide just the right pastor for their church's vacancy. They are so grateful for the blessings and tender care of the Good Shepherd. The end of 2022 found them celebrating the past year of "many good things," including 30 years of marriage.

- Pray that they put on the Lord Jesus Christ daily and that they can discern the particular good works in which they are to walk.
- Pray for Ruth Ann's coordination of the prayer teams for the 2 European regional conferences taking place in April and May.
- Pray for the integration of new believers from Muslim backgrounds into local fellowships. Pray that the Lord would bring entire households to Himself.



Valery & Janna Morozov
NATIONAL PARTNERS & BIBLE TRANSLATORS / RUSSIA

Janna and Valery Morozov have led Wycliffe Bible Translators Russia over 20 years. They are grateful for projects such as "Bible Audio Stories" in native languages for the various peoples of Russia and for the work in the Caucasus, Africa, and Asia. Two recent blessings were the Bible audio stories for the Abazin people and an illustrated book distributed in the Caucasus region. The team was interviewed on TV; a local newspaper published an article; and it was advertised on social media. The books were distributed at local libraries, schools, cafes, and among interested people. It was a miracle for this region. Life and conditions in Russia have become more difficult recently. However, Wycliffe's mission continues despite all the difficulties. They are grateful they can be useful, contribute, and help people during these challenging days. "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh, is anything too difficult for Me?" Jeremiah 32:27

- Pray that those who hear God's Word spoken in their language will be receptive to the Gospel.
- Pray they will remain firm in their faith and their worldview will not change despite the pressures and dangers from different sides.
- Pray for Valery, Janna, their daughter-in-law, Nastya, and grandson, Lev, as they live with the loss of their son, husband, and dad, Kirill, who passed away in 2021.



#### Meghan Rintoul CAMPUS OUTREACH SERVE / ENGLAND

Meghan Rintoul became a Christian in 2013 through the ministry of Campus Outreach at Southeast Missouri State University. After catching a vision for sharing Christ with college students, she came on staff with the Resource Office and worked on the Rhodes College campus. After serving in Memphis for 5 years, through prayer and seeking to discern the Lord's leading, Meghan felt the call to take the skills she had learned in Memphis and use them overseas. She is excited to join the ministry in Birmingham, England, as the Regional Director's Assistant, where she will continue to see God's kingdom be built here on earth as it is in heaven!

- Pray for Meghan to finish well in Memphis, for all the details of moving abroad and saying goodbyes to family and friends.
- Pray she will acclimate quickly to her new country and city and bond with her new coworkers and teammates.
- Pray for the Lord to use Meghan to reach many international students with the Gospel of Christ.



**George Tolias**STRATEGIC PARTNER & CHURCH PLANTER / GREECE

Spouse: Phaedra; Children: Olivia, Nicholas, Zoe

George pastors Glyfada Evangelical Church in Greece, the first church plant of Pastor Giotis' church. The church also ministers to refugees from the surrounding countries, especially Muslims from the Middle East. On New Year's Day, they hosted a luncheon after church, and many brought their non-believing relatives to celebrate. It was a great time for sharing their hope in Christ. Since their neighborhood has been able to open up after Covid-19, church leaders have been able to visit church families, train interns in spiritual gifts, and support families affected by various crises. They recently started new IT classes for refugee women and hosted a holiday bazaar for local residents to sell their goods, They hosted a prayer gathering with three local churches and have noticed an increasing desire for community and prayer. George and Phaedra were especially gratified to visit one of the first refugee couples to complete the At Home program at their new home in Germany.

- Praise God for their new library space, which they used for a Christmas outreach event. Pray for more family connections to grow as the Word is taught.
- Pray for their BluPrint social entrepreneurship program, their Timothy Project intern training program, and their regular church services, that the love of Christ would overflow and change hearts.
- Pray for unity in their church, as they serve more and more, and for provision of a new building to further their ministry efforts.



## Theo Visser STRATEGIC PARTNER / INTERCULTURAL CHURCH PLANTING EUROPE

Spouse: Reineke

Theo serves as the founder and director of Intercultural Church Plants Europe (ICP EU). His goal is to replicate what he launched in the Netherlands (ICP NL) in multiple countries throughout Europe. Theo loves to see culturally focused outreach among all the various nationalities living in one city combined with gathering in one place for a common worship service. He equips leaders with the Alpha course to begin the process, then has a sequence of courses to follow up interest and create dynamic communities. He seeks to work within existing denominational structures in Europe by envisioning and empowering key leaders open to intercultural church planting. This dynamic is both terribly exciting and extremely challenging. Theo has found a catalytic leader in several EU countries and is currently working with a group in Germany to further expand.

- Pray that Theo would continue to be bold as he casts vision and recruits catalysts to spread intercultural church planting throughout Europe.
- Pray that the current catalysts already serving countries in the EU Network would be strengthened, and that new catalytic leaders would be identified and brought on board.
- Pray for this movement to gain traction in existing church denominations and networks.

## Africa

Dean & Kyria Baldwin
Larry Brown
Pieter Ernst
Alicia Hubbard
Judy Mbugua
Scott & Ellen McElveen
Allison Neubert
Aaliyah Nicholson
Steve & Marion Spencer
Steve Winstead





#### Dean & Kyria Baldwin CHURCH PLANTING / ETHIOPIA

Child: Thomas

Dean and Kyria were serving with Mission to the World (MTW) in Central Asia when they took a medical leave to treat Dean's injury to his Achilles tendon. However, while they were in the US, their team dissolved, so they had to seek a new field. They visited numerous mission partners while factoring in medical appointments for Dean and for Kyria's pregnancy. In May 2022, they welcomed their son, Thomas, into the world. After considering several locations and visiting a few sites, Dean and Kyria have been led to join a team in Ethiopia. After a field visit in November, they were invited to join the MTW team currently serving there. Kyria's entry into world missions started with her interest in Bible translation. Since Ethiopia is a multilingual nation, there are ongoing Bible translation and mother-tongue literacy work opportunities in country. Since Dean's mission background includes teaching at a theological school, the opportunities for involvement in theological education in Ethiopia are also attractive. He will also engage in a local "Faith and Farming" initiative.

- Pray that God would guide them through all the steps to moving to their new field location this summer.
- Pray that they would connect both with their team and the national partners they will
  work with on the field.
- Pray that they would be able to quickly discern the specific ministries to be involved in during their first term.



Larry Brown
BIBLE COLLEGE PROFESSOR / MALAWI

Larry has been with African Bible College and Christian Academy in Lilongwe, Malawi, for 30 years. ABC Malawi has developed new programs including online degree programs in Biblical Studies, Education, Mass Communication, Business Administration, and Community Development. Larry is teaching a new course, Prophets and Kings, along with courses in World History and Church History. While the whole school has mourned the unexpected passing of ABC's President, Paul Chinchen, the staff is committed to serve so that the college will continue without interruption. Larry's son, Carey, who graduated 2 years ago from ABC's Christian academy as class valedictorian, is currently attending UT Martin. After 15 years of raising Carey as a single dad, Larry is adjusting to parenting a college age son from afar.

- Pray that Larry would effectively teach and guide his students in the College and the seminary.
- Pray for the people of Malawi, who were affected by flooding and resultant cholera in January, and who are chronically plagued by a devaluing currency.
- Pray for Larry's son, Carey, as he adjusts to student life in the US, and seeks to discern what will be next for him.



#### Pieter Ernst STRATEGIC PARTNER / HOLISTIC MINISTRY / MOZAMBIQUE

Pieter serves as the director of Gaza Works, a holistic ministry that builds discipleship groups in the Gaza province of Mozambique while helping them develop collective farming. Pieter leads the overall ministry and oversees the implementation of new farming techniques, while Michaque works to equip and support the discipleship group leaders. Michaque works with the key volunteers who all oversee groups in their communities. Through these discipleship groups, people in the community learn about saving faith, are discipled, learn to turn away from animistic and syncretistic practices, and learn to serve those in need in their communities. Last year a new "through the Bible" curriculum was introduced, so that discipleship groups can now study the entire Bible, rather than being limited to key concepts and ideas surrounding salvation.

- Pray for Pieter and Michaque, that they would be able to effectively disciple leaders in each community, that they might be empowered to turn around and do the same.
- Pray for Pieter's health, as he battles medical issues from time to time and periodically has to be away in his native South Africa for treatment.
- Pray that God would bless the collective farms, that each community would be blessed to be a blessing to their entire community, both spiritually and physically.



Alicia Hubbard
CAMPUS OUTREACH SERVE / ZAMBIA

Alicia Hubbard grew up in a Christian home but did not understand how to have a personal relationship with Christ. Between Christian camps, VBS, and regular church attendance, she learned what it meant to truly believe in Jesus: to count the cost, pick up her cross, and follow Him. In 2013 the Lord sent her to Murray State where she became involved with Campus Outreach and was surrounded by discipleship and community. She participated in CO Summer Projects from 2016 to 2019 and then decided to serve for two years with CO Zambia in Lusaka. That experience had such an impact on her life that she has decided to return to serve on the Lusaka CO team.

- Pray for Alicia as she completes her support team, finishes her transition details, and anticipates departure to Zambia mid-year.
- Pray for the Lord to go before her, preparing the way and the hearts of those she will encounter, for quick friendships to form.
- Pray for quick adjustment to her new team, as many she knew while there have fulfilled their commitments and returned home.



#### Judy Mbugua NATIONAL PARTNER & HSF DIRECTOR / KENYA

Judy is the Founder and CEO of Homecare Spiritual Fellowship, a ministry that serves children and women in Kibera, cares for women with HIV, and prays regularly for individuals in their nation. One aspect of the ministry, The Bethel School of Dressmaking, gives young people from Kibera the opportunity to learn the workplace skill of sewing, that they might be able to find meaningful employment. In December, they had nine students who sat for the Grade 3 sewing exams. Judy is the host of a TV ministry and cohosts a radio program with her son, Robert. Judy's husband, Richard, passed away last year from Covid-19. He was a beloved husband, father, and member of the community who is greatly missed. Richard came to Christ through Judy's ministry and is a huge part of her testimony.

- Continue to pray for Judy and her family over the loss of their husband and dad.
- Pray that God would bless the graduates of the Bethel School of dressmaking, that they might find sustainable work to develop a future outside of Kibera.
- Pray for the women with HIV that Judy serves, that God would sustain their health, and that they would know God's love and care for them personally.



Scott & Ellen McElveen
CHURCH PLANTING / SENEGAL

Children: Gideon & Abigail

Scott and Ellen have been given a special love for the Fula people of Senegal. The McElveens hope to encourage Fula believers and to also help equip them to meet their day to day needs. Coming from an Islamic culture those Fula people who put their faith in Christ are typically cut off from their families and communities. Scott's Masters in Agricultural Science and Ellen's entrepreneurial experience will, they hope, help to carry the burdens Fula believers experience. After completing their French language studies, they are temporarily in the US before moving to Senegal, where they have another two languages to learn!

- Pray the Lord would continue to bless their language acquisition. There are three languages necessary to communicate with the Fula people and the McElveens are committed to learning them.
- Pray that God would bless their time in the US and prepare them for their move to Senegal.
- Pray that God would give them grace and perseverance to learn their next two languages.



### Allison Neubert CAMPUS OUTREACH SERVE RESOURCE TEAM / SOUTH AFRICA

Allison is in her ninth year of ministry with Campus Outreach and just completed her second year with CO in South Africa. Allison has seen much growth and restructuring of the organization over the last year. Staff have initiated 350 intentional relationships and engaged 236 students in consistent Gospel conversations. They have witnessed 5 students profess faith in Christ! Between the 3 campuses, 72 key student leaders are being intentionally discipled, and 32 of these students participated in the Khula project, their first summer project since 2019. Students spent 8 days learning about God and how to study the Bible in a practical way for themselves. They learned how to initiate Gospel conversations and develop rich relationships with other students from their campuses. God continues to grow Allison's vision for sharing the Gospel, as she is building genuine relationships with new friends at CrossFit, many of whom are students and unbelievers.

- Please pray for renewed energy and vision for Allison and other CO workers laboring on campuses in South Africa.
- Pray that God might draw unbelievers to Himself through Allison's new friendships at CrossFit.
- Please pray that the Lord would encourage these students who are new believers, that they would grow in their knowledge and love of God and His Word and be equipped to share that faith with others.



Aaliyah Nicholson
FIRST RESPONDER AND TEACHER / ETHIOPIA

Spouse: Surafel

Since the fall of 2020, Aaliyah has been a teacher at Bingham Academy in Addis Ababa. Aaliyah has had an exciting year, as she and her husband Sura were married last May. They spent their summer setting up their home, hosting friends and family, and preparing for the new school year. She is currently teaching Grade 7 Social Studies and Grade 10 History. Sura also teaches at Bingham in Grades 8, 9, and 10. Outside of teaching school, they have had many opportunities to share the gospel, including teaching at VBS, speaking at International Evangelical Church's youth summer camp on 1 Peter to 50 students, and leading seminars and conversational English classes in language school with students from many backgrounds. Aaliyah continues her Amharic language classes so that she might build relationships and communicate the gospel to her friends and neighbors more easily.

- Pray for Aaliyah's and Sura's new marriage, that the Lord would protect their marriage and keep Christ as their foundation.
- Pray for the students at Bingham Academy, as many do not know Christ personally, that Aaliyah would be a faithful witness and a winsome mentor.
- Pray for Aaliyah's home assignment this summer, that Sura would be granted his visa to the US and be able to join her in stateside ministry.



#### Steve & Marion Spencer GENESIS UNIVERSITY / SOUTH AFRICA

Children: Samuel & Esther

Steve and Marion served for 3 decades at African Bible College in Lilongwe, Malawi. For the past 3 years they have endeavored to launch Genesis University, a Christian liberal arts university in South Africa in an area where no such institution exists. This enormous undertaking has encountered many challenges - chief among which has been finding a location. In December a site was found in the Belmont Office Park in Rondebosch, Cape Town. There are countless documents required by the Ministry of Education and Council for Higher Education for accreditation, a work effort Steve describes as analogous to Nehemiah's rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall (plans put into action). Logistical calculations of annual expenses have been compiled with prayerful requests for needed funds. What a glory to receive a Christmas report that Genesis University is underway!

- Pray for all the approvals, paperwork and support for Genesis University to come through, so they can begin to train the next generation of Christian leaders in South Africa.
- Pray for wisdom for Steve, government acceptance of the documents, future faculty and staff hires, and ultimately students to attend and develop as Christian leaders.
- Pray for Steve and Marion's son, Jon, and his wife, Lauren, as they begin the process to adopt a baby from Malawi.



## Steve Winstead PASTOR INTERNATIONAL EVANGELICAL CHURCH / ETHIOPIA

Spouse: Margaret; Children: Samuel, Noah, Benjamin, Daniel

Steve serves as Pastor of the IEC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In February of 2022, the Winsteads were reunited as a family in Addis following a brief separation due to conflict in the northern region. They have resumed their robust evangelical outreach by launching a church intern program, hosting teams from Downline Ministries and Harvest Church, and continuing 3 facility projects at IEC - the youth center, the Christian Education building, and an important new retaining wall. Some of their highlights from last year included their Forsaken Children 5k, an event which they used for outreach last March, the multi-organization Orphan Summit in May, and the launch of Downline in Ethiopia in September. They are grateful for the peace agreement signed on Nov 21 after two years of civil war.

- Pray that the peace agreement in Ethiopia would hold and produce healing and open doors for more Kingdom work.
- Pray that the impact of Orphan Sunday would encourage more adoptions within Ethiopia, a county with over 5 million orphans.
- Pray that Steve would be filled with the Holy Spirit to communicate God's Word each time he preaches, and that he would be given wisdom to lead and organize ministry in IEC well.

# Central / South America

Guille MacKenzie
Gabriel Morales
Juan Patt
Marcelo Robles
Kyle & Claudia Zimmerman





### Guille MacKenzie NATIONAL PARTNER & CHURCH PLANTER / ARGENTINA

Spouse: Debbie; Children: Catalina, Camilla, Benjamin

After studying in the U.S, Guille and Debbie returned to Argentina in 2010 to plant a church in the Palermo neighborhood of Buenos Aires. In 2013 Guille launched Iglesia Nuevo Avivamiento Church which meets and partners with a local Taiwanese church. During Covid-19, the church was one of the few places in the city of Buenos Aires where someone could receive the vaccine. God used this to allow many people to hear the Gospel and learn about the church. Guille also founded Misión BETA, a church planting center formed to glorify God and to multiply Christian churches. Guille teaches a one-year program for church planters and those interested in church leadership. In addition to teaching at Misión BETA, he is also teaching Greek classes at an online seminary. Guille is in his second year in his PhD in Biblical Studies at Lancaster Bible College Capital Seminary.

- As this past year has brought many opportunities to serve God, pray that God would give Guille wisdom of where and how to best use their time as they serve.
- Pray for their leadership team as they develop a 3-year vision plan for the church.
- Pray that church planters would be envisioned and equipped to reach new people through Mision BETA.



Gabriel Morales
NATIONAL PARTNER & CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR / MEXICO

Spouse: Norma

Gabriel (the brother of Chucho Morales, pastor of Esperanza Church in Memphis) serves as Administrator at Shalom Presbyterian Church and Blas Pascal Christian School in Merida, Mexico. Services at Shalom Presbyterian Church resumed in person in September 2022 after being closed more than two years due to Covid-19. Gabriel has worked with Reformed Evangelistic Fellowship since 1999. In 2017, Shalom Presbyterian Church partnered with Sowing a Vision that helps churches, Christian institutions, and communities in need through their partner church mission teams. This past summer, they hosted three mission teams, including one from Second that consisted of 22 enthusiastic youth and staff. Nine different buildings were painted, a kitchen and two bathrooms were built, and a roof was built making significant improvements to the facilities.

- Pray that God would give them direction in making decisions regarding Blas Pascal Christian school as they minister to students' families.
- Pray that the Lord would bless the time spent and relationships formed by volunteers who come to help with various painting and building projects and use it for His glory.
- Pray for Gabriel's family to remain strong in unity as they are seeking, loving, and obeying God.



Juan Patt
NATIONAL PARTNER & PASTOR / BELIZE

Spouse: Maria; Children: Stephanie & Joanna

Juan is the pastor of Prince of Peace church in Corozal, Belize. A few years ago he helped establish a second church, Harvest Church in Calcutta Village, as a mission church. As was the case globally, Covid-19 outbreaks forced changes to community worship practices. While direct face to face ministry was restricted during Covid-19, re-openings are underway. Sunday school, corporate worship on Sundays and sports ministries have been reinstated, though they still have virtual meetings during the week. Praise that Maria has been able to continue study toward her Master's in Education. She delivered the last of her final assignments at year's end. Praises also for the continued good health of daughters, Stephanie and Joanna, and their ability to continue study at their respective schools.

- Pray for their members to continue to persevere during difficult economic times and to remain faithful and committed to God.
- Pray for the women's and youth ministries as they re-engage in person and plan for ministry events this year.
- Pray for Juan as he continues to battle health issues. Pray for stamina and strength as he pastors Prince of Peace and assists at Harvest, as well as serves on the board of the Presbyterian Church of Belize.



Marcelo Robles
STRATEGIC PARTNER & CHURCH PLANTER / ARGENTINA

Spouse: Susi; Children: Vicky & Brenda

Marcelo is a church planter and pastor of La Mision Church in Buenos Aires. This church has five congregations around the city and is celebrating its 25th anniversary. La Mision focuses on caring for children and the poor, working with university students and training church planters and pastors. Small groups and leaders have been growing in number. Marcelo also serves the City to City Network in Argentina and Latin America which equips and supports new church planters. La Mission cares for high-risk children through the Early Childhood Center which provides a safe, nurturing environment for children to learn and grow. This also allows their parents to go to work knowing their children are safe and well-cared for. They invite families in under resourced neighborhoods to come receive care and support.

- Pray that their ministries of word, deed, mercy, and faith in the workplace would bear fruit and that new church planters would be equipped and supported to serve throughout Buenos Aires.
- Pray for continued growth in La Mision's youth and women's ministry outreach events. Pray for Susi as she becomes more involved in the women's ministry.
- Pray for the Lord to give Marcelo and Susi wisdom, open hearts and ears to listen, and an abundance of grace as they raise their teenage daughters.



#### Kyle & Claudia Zimmerman DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH / ARGENTINA

Children: Isaiah, Sarah, Abegail

In 2007, Kyle and Claudia returned to Buenos Aires and La Mision Church where Kyle had served for a period after college. Currently, the Zimmermans serve at La Mision's Palermo campus, a suburb of Buenos Aires, where they are both involved in teaching. Kyle is an industrial engineer (working on completing his MBA) and is using his skills to teach carpentry and woodworking to young men living in shanty towns. These young men come to learn a trade, but many have said they stay to hear the Gospel lessons that Kyle shares with them. Claudia has found her heart's work in teaching children in crisis. In this past year, they have found more and more families in their church that are seeking them out for wisdom to walk with them through difficult times. The economy in Argentina was expected to reach +50% inflation. Their church is stepping in to help fill the hunger gap by serving 200 meals each Saturday. Kyle's carpentry class recently used recycled telephone poles to build a roof on the outdoor structure.

- Pray that God would bless Kyle's ministry, both as an elder at La Mision and as a carpentry teacher, that he might reflect Christ's love to those around him.
- Pray for La Mision's ministries to the under-resourced, that in these difficult economic times they might know and experience the Lord's provisions.
- Pray for the well-being of their 3 children-that God would guide and direct Isaiah at Covenant College, and for their 2 daughters still at home.

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