

PRAISE & PRAYER
June 24, 2026
First Mennonite Church

PRAISE:

Father, thank You that You see far more than outward actions, and that nothing done for Your glory is ever hidden from Your sight. You know every motive, every sacrifice, every act of obedience, and every gift given in secret. Help us to rest in the joy of being known and loved by You rather than seeking the approval of others, and may we serve, give, and love with humility and sincerity.

Pray for our workers of the week: Gor*** & Ya*** C.

PRAYERS:

- We're reminded in multiple ways to always keep our eyes on Jesus lest we "look at the waves" and cause our faith to waiver. God is in control, and our role is to fix our eyes on God in prayer and faithful commitment. This means more since the office of one of our partner organizations, an NGO in India, was raided by police three weeks ago. An accusation was made of "*forceful efforts to convert vulnerable children*". Police are investigating activities, finances, and other documents of their Community Health Evangelism ministry, which has run for several decades, plus for the children: after-school tutoring, health and moral value lessons. **Pray** for God to bring glory and honor to Himself, for a transparent and non-biased investigation, that the investigators will witness God's love through the NGO staff, that parents and children (all from the majority H' faith) who benefit from our team's efforts will be given opportunity to testify, that there will be no prosecution of staff, and that the NGO will be able to continue functioning and not be shut down.
- **Pray** for Mr. EA's health. He is Gor***'s "right hand man" and trainer for CHE. His lung capacity is about 50%, and doctors have given him about 1½ years to live. He's a dear friend, a people person and a great networker who knows many church leaders around India. He keeps pushing forward to train or follow-up those already trained. Knowing that God is in control and wants us to ask according to His will, **pray** that He will have mercy on his lungs, that health be restored, and to give him extra years of effective ministry.
- We continue to wait on God to bring someone to be Gor***'s successor.

Pray for 7 unspoken requests.

Pray for comfort for Dennie Baumgartner and other family and friends in the death of his brother, David Baumgartner, on June 17.

Persecuted Church: In north Bangladesh, Christian persecution, especially against converts, is rising sharply. **Pray** for provision and protection over the families forced into hiding.

CHURCH: Praise for the Kosovo Team's safe arrival home on Saturday. Ryan Sprunger is serving with MDS in Iowa in June. **Pray** for safety as families travel this summer for vacation. **Pray** for Josie Pfister, Josh Linthicum, and Jackson Shoaf as they serve as camp counselors this summer.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Swiss Village: Phyllis Habegger (in rehab); Twyla Sprunger (on hospice); **pray** for strength and encouragement)

Home: Lois Lehman (**pray** for continued healing of her short-term memory); Abby Tumbleson (**pray** for her continued recovery); Malcolm Stauffer (recovering from knee surgery); Connie Yoder (recovering from knee surgery)

FOR THOSE WHO ARE A PART OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

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| • Brian Lehman | • Bill & Gretta Lehman |
| • Ruth Swygart | • Mitch & Tracy Simon |
| • Dennie Baumgartner | • Willis & Eleanor Nussbaum |
| • Kent & Shirley Steiner | • Alan & Cindy Habegger |
| • David & Susan Wulliman | • Bill, Jenn, Naarah & Naomi Helmlinger |

PRAYER:

Lord, forgive us for the times that we have desired the praise of people more than Your approval. Help us remember that when we give, we do so out of genuine compassion for those in need and not out of obligation. Open our eyes for opportunities to bless others without seeking recognition, and create in us humble hearts that seek Your glory above all else. May our giving point to Your goodness and reflect the humility of Christ.

Please phone Praise & Prayer items to the church office, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., 589-3108; or Jim Schwartz, 525-0124