

Latest Mission Partner Updates – October 2024

ACTS, Haiti – Clark Shepherd

Prayers:

- Pray for our missions team traveling to Colombia.
- Pray for the many lives we will be reaching in the name of Jesus.
- Pray our upcoming concerts with Newsboys and Big Daddy Weave in Warsaw, to share the gospel and the hope of Jesus in our community.

Elam Ministries, Iran (and beyond) – Dan & Carmen Hale

Prayers:

- We are planning 2 driving trips in October: 1) to South Texas and 2) to Midland in West Texas. We will probably drive 1,500 miles. Please pray for safety, favor, and open doors to share about the underground church in Iran.
- Pray for new training courses, the students, teachers, and support teams.
- Pray for the dozens of people in prison in Iran for their Christian efforts. Please lift them up.

Praises:

- Praise God for our safe return from Turkey on September 23! We visited 5 churches, prayed for many, and witnessed 50+ baptized.
- Praise God for the thousands who have downloaded Elam's Safar and Kalameh websites!

Encompass World Partners, France – Rob and Nichole Plaster

Prayers:

- Pray for our new Teen Club and that each teen would nurture a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray that each teen would feel the love and belonging of Kingdom community and that each teen invests in caring for each other in the group.
- Pray that each family would see what God is at work doing in the lives of their teen.

Praises:

- Praise God that Marco who has been reading daily the Bible we gave him!
- Praise God that Rob is healing well from his surgery and was able to volunteer for the Paris Para-Olympics!

Ethnos360 Training – Dan & Madison Murphy

Prayers:

- Pray for our focus and intentionality throughout the week. We have 15 main speakers to hear from, as well as several breakout sessions to attend.

- Pray for our growing relationships with the field representatives. We will be hosting reps from each of these fields in our home for meals throughout the week.
- Pray for clarity and direction as we move toward a specific field of ministry.
- Pray for more laborers in each of these fields. There are many needs everywhere, and we are trusting the Lord to raise up the people He wants to use.

Praises:

- Praise for our faithful supporters who make it possible and stress-free for us to buy extra groceries so we can encourage and hear from our coworkers through fellowship at the dinner table!

Kaleb and Ellie Scheidewent

Prayers:

- Pray for guidance on making the decision to attend the Ethnos Training Center in either Canada or Missouri.
- Pray for opportunities to share about what God is leading us into.
- Pray for our time as we build relationships with partners.

Praises:

- Praise God for our vision-confirming trip to Asia Pacific!
- Praise God for 14 people joining our Pit Crew!
- Praise God for us starting new jobs!

Geoffery and Rachel Vaughn

Prayers:

- Pray for focus as we are learning Foundational Bible Teaching.
- Pray for us as we have an opportunity to speak at a church in Appleton City, Missouri on October 20th.
- Pray for Roman (son) to rest well so that we can also rest and have energy for classes.

Praises:

- We are so blessed to be here, and we praise God for all of you and your helping us be sent!

Ethnos360/New Tribes Mission PNG, Papua New Guinea – Summer Zimmer

Prayers:

- Pray for wisdom on when to offer the next Ladies' Debriefing Retreat.
- Pray for wisdom, discernment, and the Lord's provision of the right people to carry out some ideas I have for short term trips, recruitment, and member care.
- Ask our God to enable me to live a life worthy of his call. May He give me the power to accomplish all the good things my faith prompts me to do (2 Thessalonians 1:11).
- I've been able to set up a time for the next Missionary Care Discussion Group, and I have several churches who will be involved. Pray for consistency and open minds and hearts with a desire to care for their missionaries well.

Praises:

- Praise God for a chiropractor here visiting and offering services at the exact time when I needed one, even though I've never needed one before.
- Praise God for the work team that came and did major renovations to our headquarters office building. It was so nice of them to come serve us in that way.

Fellowship Missions, Warsaw – Eric & Tammy Lane

Prayers:

- Pray that everyone who walks through our doors feels welcomed and that Christ is made known.
- Pray for the individuals going through our Genesis program. It is deep and challenging, but it is transforming.
- Please pray that all those we serve will learn/know the meaning of grace, faith, hope, and love and the reason we have these gifts available to us.
- Pray for continued resources (volunteers, items and monetary) to be fulfilled for our current facility and our new downtown resource community building called The Gathering Place.
- Pray that we continue to bring Glory to His name in all that we do!

Praises:

- Praise God for the four baptisms at Fellowship Missions on Monday, September 16, and two more residents getting baptized at WCC this month!
- Praise God for the opening of The Gathering Place!
- Praise God for His continued faithfulness!

Hands of Hope, International, Guatemala—Sally Dewald

Prayers:

- Pray for Sally as she continues to grieve her mother who went to be with our Heavenly Father six months ago and is still going through the process of going through her belongings and figuring things out.
- Pray for the family of the biomedical engineer we lost earlier this year. He was working in Africa, and the day he arrived home he went directly to the hospital and died. Joe was a huge asset and will be missed.
- Pray that we will be able to find a replacement to be able to continue surgeries.
- Please pray for the new team as we have a trip planned for November.
- Pray for all our translators in Guatemala as they are there doing the everyday work of being the church. To name two of them, we have Cristian Del Cid and Ale Mosi.
- Amy Bockstahler is a nurse practitioner who came with us 20 years ago and is in full time service as a resident missionary in Guatemala. Please keep her in your prayers as well.

Praises:

- Sally's husband, Mike, has retired. Mike has worked hard for their family and Sally is so grateful that he has looked out for her in the past and has put in place care for the future.

Heartline, Kosciusko County – Brenda Whitehead

Prayers:

- Pray for the teen moms and dads who have come to Heartline recently.
- Pray for our wonderful new staff members— starting a new position brings challenges!
- Pray for God's direction as we seek additional board members.

Praises:

- Praise God for our successful recent fundraiser!
- Praise God for our wonderful new staff members— we are so thankful God brought them to us.
- Praise God that more and more people in our community are becoming aware of our services.

Humanity & Hope, Honduras – Riley & Naz Fuller, Pastor Roger and Karen Reyes

Prayers:

- Pray for Roger and his family to have sweet time visiting with his sister, mother, and grandmother who will be visiting from the US until October 12.
- Pray for Kelvin and Leyte, a couple who have been growing spiritually. Leyte needs surgery and Kelvis has been very ill with a flu-like condition.
- Pray for the two H&H trip that is scheduled for October, that many attendees will be moved to support H&H with their talents and donations.
- Pray for God to provide for the financial needs of H&H and the Reyes family.
- Pray for all the students from the H&H communities to finish their school year well over the next two months.
- Pray for resources to construct a fence around the community center in La Coraza where Roger and Karen lead the bible studies and church services.

Praises:

- Praise God Karen's counseling and therapy work with the students has been going very well! She was recognized recently for the beneficial impact that her work is having as many of the kids are showing substantial improvement in school and in their community.
- H&H received enough funding to complete construction of the bridge in La Cuchilla which makes travel across the river much safer for the people and children of the community. Praise God!

iHouse – Jason and Lauren Hiatt

Prayers:

- Pray a powerful impact from the iHouse benefit dinner, that what the attendees heard about the Kingdom of God would turn their focus on Jesus and His Great Commission.
- Pray for wisdom for iHouse leaders as we navigate the needs of iHouse in 2025 and prepare plans for the future of iHouse.
- Pray for volunteers to join us teaching English and taking people to appointments.

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for a successful summer!

Kutoa Project, Kenya – Jason & Shae Brown

Prayers:

- We have a lot of travel and events happening over these next few weeks. We pray for safety for our team and for God to use these programs for His Glory. We are always so thankful to provide safe places to help promote healing.
- We are preparing for Healing Hearts camps for children who have experienced trauma, to find healing and learn about Jesus. We just had one in September, and it is such an honor to host these. We are excited and preparing our hearts for the upcoming ones we will be having in November and December.

Praises:

- We are so thankful for all the events and programs our team has hosted these past few weeks. We have hosted two healing groups, group counseling, counseling, Healing Hearts Camp, and many young adult programs. We are honored to do this week to help bring others closer to God and give them hope when life is really hard.

LeaderSource Teams in the Nations – Jim Brenneman Prayers for Jim:

- Jim helps to write Bible-training materials for frontline leaders in the nations. Our Theology Project is now in use in China by hundreds of leaders and it is also in use throughout Africa and in connection with the 99 Names of Allah project for Muslims. Pray for Jim's work of writing.
- One of our current projects is a very elementary presentation of basic Bible truth for new believers in a program for building disciples, especially for China. Pray for Jim's work of writing.
- Jim still builds leaders around the world via the Web, including frequent interactions to answer questions about the Bible, Christian doctrines and ethics. He is even teaching Hebrew.
- Jim also provides notes for a year-long plan to read through the whole Bible chronologically. Pray for the hundreds of people involved in this daily Bible reading.
- Mentoring ministry connects him with young men in America, as Jim shares a spare bedroom in his home with college students. Connection with the previous house-guest continues (Francisco from Costa Rica and Cesar from Venezuela. Pray for both of these young men.

For LeaderSource:

Muslim World

- Pray for our increasing reach into the Muslim world – including Sudan, Syria, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, launching from Egypt.
- The most recent areas of outreach include North Africa in Liberia, Morocco, and Algeria. Pray in particular for Ousamma in Morocco and for the couple in Algeria – Nasser and Dihia.
- Pray for the team in Egypt as they work with orthodox and evangelicals, as well as Muslim Background Believers. Our Egypt team is serving as a very effective Family of God Church in Cairo – especially as they demonstrate the love of God to empty and hurting Muslims.

China – Major Gathering

- Pray for our staff in China, training tens of thousands of leaders.
- September 9-13, our executive director (MW) will be presenting a big Leader Development Consultation in China. We are going to do prayer and fasting during that time to pray for the effectiveness of the event, and to also pray for security for the event. Please to join us in prayer for that event – Before, During, and After.
- In recent months, China has significantly increased monitoring on the civilians, especially related to interaction with foreigners. It's challenging for leaders to meet together, with MW's presence even more so.
- Through a lot of prayer and consideration, we had decided to cancel MW's visit again, due to the level of security risk. But to our surprise God suddenly provided a private location. Now, after rigorous planning and logistical work, we feel at peace that it can be done well. So we are doing it.
- This will be MW's first trip (or any LS people the West) to China after almost 5 years! 😊
- We are really praying that this will become a very strategic, even historical time for the church in China, a major milestone toward the fulfilling of God's purposes for His church! Not because we are so big, but because of God's love for China! Thank you for joining us in this big hope and prayer. It's all about Him and for Him!

Sub-Saharan Africa

- Pray for the recent launch of four separate INTENSIVE full-time training programs for building emerging leaders in West Africa. These programs are being led by young men and women of God who are themselves being mentored and nurtured by mature believers.
- Pray for all our international teams who are learning how to trust God to meet their financial needs, as they learn to wean themselves away from reliance on help from the West.
- At the same time, pray that much more financial support will come from the West, from those who do have means to help these very needy servants of God in regions of the world in which daily income is only a few dollars per day for the people they are serving.

Least-reached/Maleu Church, Papua New Guinea – Todd & Karen Gerst

Prayers:

- Pray for the Maleu church to stand strong and be a light to those who have never heard and for the Elders and Deacons as they lead the Church.
- Pray for the other Maleu Villages that someone would go and tell them about God's saving Grace.
- Pray for Kewaka (Maleu Elder) and family as they travel and help equip other nationals in PNG.

Praise:

- Praise the Lord for how He continues to work mightily in and through the Gie/Aimola church.
- Praise the Lord that it has grown very large as new people have heard and understood the Gospel! Please pray for the leaders and their families as they minister there in the midst of all the growing pains.
- Praise the Lord for all the families willing to leave their homes to continue spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Least-reached/Pei Tribe, Papua New Guinea – Chris & Evie Jones

The Joneses (along with their teammates) serve amongst the Pei people group of Papua New Guinea. Their goal is to plant a thriving church eventually led by the Pei people.

Prayers:

- Pray for the baby church here in Pei Village. It consists of up to 15 faithful men, women, and children. The church was born in the summer of 2020.
- For the three believing men (Le, Philip and Beni) to set the things of this world aside (fear of people, love of money, lack of love and leadership towards women and children, freedom to not work and living off others) and come to the teaching faithfully and humble themselves!
- Pray for the young teens (Leggi, Emeleda, and Melisen) that are starting to help us lead the kids Bible class on Wednesday afternoons. We want them to take on the teaching and lead fully!
- Pray for the kids attending (most of their parents have rejected the Gospel).

Praise:

- Praise God for how He provides for our true daily needs, from our solar-run homes to the cargo supplies for food and medicine!
- Praise God for our coworkers returning after a yearlong furlough (Joneses, Candace Swift, Rees Family). Now we have three units working!

Media 7, Albania and Kosovo – Leda Shelburne

Prayers:

- Please continue to pray for Shayne's health. He is continuing with dialysis. On the first week of October the doctor will have more examinations and blood work done.
- We need a teacher for Andy. Please pray that the Lord will provide a teacher.
- Please pray for financial provision for our radio ministry in Albania, Kosovo, and Macedonia. We had some funding cuts this summer.
- Please pray for the pastors' conference we are organizing October 9 and 10. The conference is in partnership with In Touch Ministries, the teaching ministries of Dr. Charles Stanley.
- We have a medical outreach in one Muslim village. Please pray for open hearts for all people who will come to have their eyes checked and get eyeglasses.
- Leda will be traveling with media teams in Kosovo, Macedonia, and a few cities in Albania in the second and third week of October. Please pray for a fruitful trip. We are recording stories of listener's impacted by our ministry.

Praises:

- Thank you for praying for Andy. He has been 1 year free from seizures. We thank God for His healing power.

Oasis Nuevas Fuerzas, Costa Rica (formerly Life Impact Ministries, Costa Rica)

– Ben & Krista Balke

Prayers:

- After a month of travel in the States attending conferences and visiting ministry partners, we are readjusting to the ministry schedule here in Costa Rica. Please pray as we prepare to host a few global workers over the next few weeks for debriefing retreats that they will hear from the Lord and that we would be used by Him to facilitate REST (Retreat Encouragement Safety Transformation).

- Pray for all our children that "He who began a good work in [them] will carry it on to completion"(Phil 1:6), and specifically, for good friendships and boldness for Jael and Isaac in their public high school. Pray for encouragement and spiritual direction for Josiah living in the States.
- Pray for our small home church, for direction and encouragement for our pastor and the church leadership.
- Pray for workers for some large and urgent home maintenance projects.

Praises:

- Praise God for the opportunity, 2 years in a row, to visit partners in the states. We are truly blessed to see many partners, friends and family during the month of August.
- Prais God for a good outcome for a difficult conversation we had to have recently with church leadership.

Pastor W S, Asia

Prayers:

- Please pray for the many new Muslim background believers during this time of unrest and persecution in our country. Pray that they hold fast to their faith!
- Please pray for the many new refugee families who are Christian and/or have worked for the US, as they are now being deported from our country. May they be protected from those who oppose them, and may they have the courage and opportunities to share their faith.
- Please pray for continued prayer and financial support. The Ministry needs a van.

Praises:

- Thank God for the love, kindness and support of WCC.
- Praise God for the Muslim scholar who recently placed his faith in Christ.
- Praise God that our family is healthy, and my wife's foot is healing.
- Praise God for the "His Story" seminar for pastors and church leaders that was held October 4-5! More details to follow as we learn of them!

Scripture Union, Uganda – Beth Baleke & Samuel Turyahikayo

From Beth Baleke:

Prayers:

- Please pray for the Scripture Union Uganda VALUES Africa team as they work toward completing and publishing the newest (8th) module, Respect, on all three age levels. The Teacher's Manuals are virtually done; the drawing of visual aids is the current focus.
- Prayer is needed for major leadership transitions taking place in Scripture Union Uganda (SUU): Sammy is taking on the National Director's responsibilities from Dickens; Dickens is assuming my (Beth's) responsibilities as SUU missionary to South Sudan (including their refugees in northern Uganda), Ethiopia, and Tanzania— among other things, he will continue to train and encourage these nations in the VALUES Africa program; Chris, who handles many details, will be transitioning to assist Dickens. Please pray as I (Beth) begin a new "SUU Bridge-Building" ministry within Uganda.
- Connected with the above-mentioned transition, please pray for the provision of a pickup truck to aid Dickens in transportation, including serving the South Sudanese Refugees. In the past, I (Beth) used MAF Mission Aviation Flights, but this greatly limits carrying supplies to the Refugees. A pickup truck allows more than one person to travel along.

- Lastly, as part of the above transition, I (Beth) am seeking God's direction regarding a visit with Ugandan Royalty to promote their support of the Christian VALUES program/curriculum. I (Beth) am also praying with an expatriate, Stephanie, about taking BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) into the Women's prisons in Jinja, Ethiopia.
- Please pray for Ethiopia as they are reaching out to new regions, and even into Somalia, a very difficult and complicated place to go.
- Please continue to pray for God's provision for printing the Swahili translation of the Self-Control Module. Please pray for the Scripture Union Tanzania (SUTz) worker, Rodrick, who has spearheaded VOICE Training throughout Tanzania. Again, let's ask the Lord of the Harvest to accomplish His will in this area.

Praises:

- Praise God that 100+ Church volunteers were trained to teach VOICE in the first 3 months of this year! Please pray that many/all will indeed put that training and curriculum into use in schools/churches/communities and be used of God to bring about life-long transformation through the Holy Spirit/God's Word.
- Praise the LORD that my (Beth's) daughter, Lisa, is currently doing exams, despite the struggle with colitis, as she strives to complete her last year of university in Cyprus.

From Samuel Turyahikayo:

Prayers:

- Please pray for successful SU organized children and youth camps taking place from 23rd – 30th August 2024.
- Pray for Dickens Zziwa who is stepping in his new role as Beth Baleke's replacement in the Missionary docket to South Sudan, Tanzania, and Ethiopia and also for Beth Baleke as she launches into uncharted waters of Bridge Builders.
- Pray for effective discipleship and follow-up of 67,463 children, youth and adults who committed their lives to the LORD Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour during the SU Uganda schools mission outreach.

Praises:

- Thank God for Beth Baleke's Ministry trip to SU Ministry partners, friends, and supporters in North America (Canada & the USA).
- Thank God for the successful SU Club Patrons' Conference that took place on 27th July 2024.
- Thank God for on-going Ministry partnership program that SU Uganda has established with Teach Every Nation which seeks to disciple young people through a wonderful resource called "Bible School on the Wheels".

World Compassion Network, Honduras/ Worldwide – Josh Grill (Sandy Hatcher)

Prayers:

- Pray that God will use us mightily in 2024.
- Pray that we will be guided by the Holy Spirit, but especially concerning out disaster relief responses and mission trips.
- Pray that God will provide funds for a newer pick up.

Praises:

- Praise God for all that he did throughout the year. We were able to respond to many disasters, give the local church in those disaster areas tools to be used in Outreach for ministry.
- Praise for the support that God is doing in Honduras, between building homes, kitchens, putting wells in and seeing so many being blessed by the church.

2nd Mile Missions, Dominican Republic – Mason McIntyre, Lisa Harstine, Sue Vercauteren, Eduardo Castillo (County Director) and Founders: Rod and Nancy Wildman

Prayers:

- **New Soccer Program in Monte Verde!** Roger Steevenson, one of 2MM's past students at 2nd Mile Education Center who has remained a dear friend to many of us who know him, has started a soccer program for kids in the village of Monte Verde where a lot of our afternoon students live. Roger said that he started this program because Monte Verde is where it all began for him, and he wanted to return and give back to the community. Please pray for him as he pours into these young boys and their futures.
- **Connecting Sponsors with new Students.** Please be in prayer for Brooke Price, our Sponsorship Director. Now that she has returned from the DR with an updated list of students for this school year, she'll be working diligently to connect sponsors who need new students to the children who are not sponsored yet. She'll also be working on updating student information cards for each sponsor to receive on their student. These processes take quite a bit of time. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to lead and guide her in making new connections with sponsors to the students God has from them.
- **Wildman Inc. Awareness Trip to the DR:** October 15th - 19th, Mason will be hosting staff from Wildman Inc. at the 2nd Mile Missions campuses in Friusa. Please be in prayer for him as he, along with Kirk, Eduardo, Rod, and Nancy, will be sharing about the ministry of 2nd Mile Missions and providing opportunities for the team to serve and experience how God is at work in the DR. Please be in prayer over the Wildman group. Pray for safety in travel, for spiritual growth in the team members, and an open heart to what God may be calling them to in their own lives when they return home. Please also pray that the team can be an encouragement to those we minister to and walk alongside with.
- **Morning Enrollment at Hope Academy:** Based on our budget needs, we needed to increase our morning enrollment at Hope Academy from 95 to 110 students. While we did gain some new students, we also lost some, so our numbers have not increased. Will you pray for another 15 to 20 kids to enroll? We know God has a plan to cover our financial needs and we also know there are children out there who need a Christ-centered education. Our morning program taught in English is separate from our sponsorship program in the afternoon. Our afternoon program, taught in Spanish, currently has a waiting list. With an increase in morning enrollment, we can open space for our afternoon students. Please pray for word to get out about Hope Academy and for more children to enroll in the morning program before October 15th when enrollment closes.

Praises:

- Thank you for praying over the Sponsorship Staff trip to the DR. Mason, Brooke, and Lisa were able to accomplish what they needed with the sponsorship projects. They also were able to meet with staff and encourage the teachers at the start of the new school year.
- Praise the Lord for a good start to the new school year! Thank you for praying for the students, staff, and new School Director for Hope Academy. Everyone is off to a great start. Please continue to pray for them throughout the school year.
- Praise God for all He does and continues to do for the least of these!

Here at WCC

Prayers:

- Pray for more people to participate in our 2024 Wayumi Team, and that those who attend are excited and motivated about the truths they learn about the role of the church in The Great Commission.
- Pray for our current missionary candidates who are in our “equipping pipeline” as they study and gain experience — the Vaughns, the Schneidewents, and the Murphys.
- Please pray that God will prompt more members of our church body to financially partner with specific WCC missionaries and missionaries in training.
- Pray that each member of our church, from Sonlight to our senior citizens, understands their role in God’s Story.

Praise:

- Praise God for the great response to our Wayumi trip in October.
- Praise God for WCC’s faithful Missions Pit Crews! They are a vital bridge between our partners and the love and care our church can afford.
- Praise God for more reports of the effectiveness of the various translations of His Story: the Rescue we have sent out. God is using all of us through this tool!