Latest Mission Partner Updates – March 2025

ACTS, Haiti – Clark Shepherd

Prayers:

- Pray for our students and families in Haiti.
- Pray for Samson's ACTS church food program, His Story program and the community.
- Pray for our home building project in Colombia and the pastors we partner with in this ministry.

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

Prayers:

- Pray for our efforts to promote in-person fellowship across Iran.
- Pray for many new fellowships to start this year.
- Pray for God to protect these fellowships and powerfully work in the hearts of those who gather so the church would continue to flourish and grow.

Encompass World Partners, France – Rob and Nichole Plaster

Prayers:

- Pray for our Angel Tree project as we adopted a family in need whose teen is a part of our teen group.
- Pray for a restful vacation in the States with family over Christmas.
- Pray that we will be able to give out twice the Bibles this year compared to last.
- Pray for more people to start reading the Bible with us.
- Pray for our support need to be met. We need 17 people giving \$100 a month.

Praises:

- Praise God for our Thanksgiving event where we were over 70! Many people were touched, and we had great conversations!
- Praise God for Marco who is reading his Bible daily and growing spiritually at an amazing rate!

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

Prayers:

- Please pray that I would grow in depending on and trusting the Lord as the people and dynamics here change once again.
- Pray for the Lord's help and discernment in preparing to return home and finishing projects well.
- Pray that I will know when to continue trying to move something forward, because the Lord calls us to persevere, or when I need to let it go, because He is the one closing the doors.
- I would like to set up two ladies' debriefing retreats for the fall, one in the Central Area in October and one in the Islands in November. Pray for clear open or closed doors for those opportunities.

- Praise the Lord that the Ladies' debriefing retreat I was able to hold in March was a blessing for me and for the four ladies attending.
- Praise that our recent celebration of what God has done through New Tribes Mission PNG in the past 75 years was well attended and impactful.

Ethnos360 Training – Dan & Madison Murphy

Prayers:

- Pray for continued growth and development of Baby Murph. Madison is over halfway through her pregnancy. Baby is growing at 75th percentile, which is great! We all have appreciated the extra boost in energy and motivation to stay healthy during this time...and Dan always gets a good laugh watching Madison trying to do pregnancy Pilates.
- Pray for us both as we kick off our Linguistics Post-graduate Course on April 14th. Pray that we will grasp what we are learning and find enjoyment in the process!

Praises:

• Praise God that we are done with all our assignments and are waiting our graduation ceremony next weekend! We are so excited that dear family, friends and supporters from Indiana, Illinois, South Carolina, and Missouri will surround us in celebration and love! Please pray for everyone's safe travels to Missouri for our time together.

Kaleb and Ellie Scheidewent

Prayers:

- Pray for us to finish school strong.
- Pray for our baby to be healthy and continue developing on track.
- Pray for Ellie to continue feeling well during her pregnancy.
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Praises:

- Praise God for our baby girl!
- Praise for us completing another session of classes!

Geoffery and Rachel Vaughn

Prayers:

- Pray for our final preparations for our Simple Living class, starting April 14th.
- Pray as we plan to spend 4-6 weeks in Warsaw this summer—logistics on where to stay and ministry partnership development.
- Pray as we balance Youth Group lesson prep, homework, and other responsibilities.
- Pray for our Polish language helper. She is not a believer.
- Pray for guidance in marriage/parenting.

- Praise God Geoffery's Men's Hike went well as well as his Lighthouse teaching!
- Praise God for the wonderful time Rachel had at the ladies' retreat!
- Praise God for His provision this month and warm weather!

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 the two brothers that came to the clinic, one 11 years old and the other about 2 years old. They are so bonded— the older brother obviously takes care of the younger and he acts like a little man. He has carried the weight of the world on his young shoulders. When we asked him what we could pray about for him his response was, "My life is hard, I don't need God. What has he done for me?" Our hears broke for him! We spent quite a bit of time with him, and he started crying. Our interpreter continued to tell him he can call upon the Lord and the Lord will be there for him. What he doesn't understand is the bond he and his younger brother have is God given. What a blessing in a difficult life that they have that.
- Please pray for Cristian and his family for safety. The gangs in Guatemala threaten businesses and extort money from them and can be very violent. They are being targeted and are taking precautions.

Praises:

- Our interpreters are awesome! These young ladies really stepped up as this was the first time they participated on a team like ours. They demonstrated maturity in the Lord and sincerity. Praise God for their fantastic job!
- We saw Cristina, Adonis, and the Demetrios family. Cristina is struggling with compression wounds, but praise God we were able to continue some treatment.
- Praise God Adonis is working and healthy. He is a miracle!
- We hired Demetrios family to take us across the lake for our clinic and therefore provided financially for the family. Praise God!

Heartline, Kosciusko County – Brenda Whitehead

- 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 Kareen Reyes

Prayers:

- Pray for some needed resources: large print Bibles, a large speaker and tripod for church services, and materials to construct a fence around the community center in La Coroza where Roger and Kareen lead the Bible studies and church services.
- Pray for the women that attended the "Beautiful" conference in early February. Pray that the Spirit will encourage and empower the women who attended that teaching and make them a light to all those where they live, work, and play.
- Pray for new individuals and families that have been coming to the church services in Remolino.
- July 19 has been proposed as the preferred date for the 3rd annual Men's Spiritual Retreat. Men from the communities that H&H serves are invited out to this weekend gathering where they learn about Jesus and what it means to be a Christ follower. Men from WCC assist with the planning and execution of this event. Pray for the planning/resourcing of this event and for all those who will join as attendees and leaders.

Praises:

- Praise God for the 4-day retreat in Teguciglalpa where H&H staff were able to reflect on all the accomplishments of 2024 and set clear goals for 2025. Pray that God will bless their efforts in the year ahead and encourage them through the challenges they will face.
- Praise God for the men's and women's growth groups meeting weekly in Remolino.
- Praise God for the ongoing men's bible study group that in La Coroza.

iHouse – Jason and Lauren Hiatt

- Please pray for a Yemen woman who lost her husband a few years ago to an act of violence. Her family is reaching out to us for assistance with appointments and language learning. The teenage daughter is engaging in spiritual conversations with us and is asking to read the Injil.
- Pray for the Afghan family still struggling with being terrorized by the children and parents who live near them. A protective order was granted for the mother but not for the two young girls. Walking to and from school has become very traumatizing for them as they must run away from this family and avoid contact with them, or they will attack them with words and, at times, physically. Please pray for a solution. The family's lease is up in May. They need to move for their safety, and housing is very difficult to find. Pray for wisdom to determine what other measures we can take to support them.

- iHouse is starting a new Bible study for women on Thursday afternoons. Pray for connections to be made and for women to feel confident in trying a new thing and joining us.
- Chloe, our intern, is finishing up her season with iHouse. Please pray for her as she graduates and moves on to graduate school. She has been a blessing to iHouse!
- A Muslim woman is spending time with staff exploring stories from the Qur'an and the Bible. This week they are reading about Joseph. Prayers for continued questions and curiosity and for truth to be revealed as she reads the true story in the Bible.
- An Afghan woman had a miscarriage, and we are all grieving the loss of her baby. Please pray for K. and her family, as well as iHouse staff who were looking forward to welcoming another baby into our community.
- iHouse is offering a class called "A Weekend of Healing", where we will be walking through joyfilled trauma informed discipleship. Please pray for the leaders of this class as they prepare and for anyone who is considering attending. Praying that people will be encouraged to learn more about attuning and attaching to God and seeing that He is glad to be with us, even amid suffering.
- Prayers for Heather as she continues to heal from an injury that is causing lasting pain that inhibits her movement. We are praying for complete healing for her!

Praises:

- Praise God for a healthy baby born to one of our Burmese friends! The mother has type 1 diabetes, so she required a lot of care and many appointments—but a healthy baby was delivered!
- Praise God for strong attendance at our English classes. Ladies are eager to join and are trying to keep their attendance steady.
- One of our Zo young ladies won a Chin National Day pageant. We are so proud of her and her desire to keep her Zo culture alive as an American teen. Praise God!

Kutoa Project, Kenya – Jason & Shae Brown

Prayers:

- Pray for April Holiday Break in Kenya as we look to have a lot of kids' programs. That we would be a safe place and for kids to learn about God and accept Jesus into their heart.
- We are growing our team and would love prayers as we try to find the right people.
- We are looking for more ways to support our young adults in their need for jobs, because jobs are so hard to find in Kenya. Pray for creative ways to support them and help them so they can be successful.
- We are navigating a lot of changes in Kenya and Stateside as a ministry, which is exciting but also hard, and we would love prayers as we do that!

Praises:

- Praise God for safe travel back from Kenya!
- Praise God for our celebration of 10 years of hope and healing with everyone!

<u>LeaderSource Teams in the Nations – Jim Brenneman Prayers for Jim:</u>

- Pray for Jim's Bible-training materials for frontline leaders in the nations. Our new disciples building material (Discovering God Together) is now ready for experimental use on the front lines. This will be available to churches and church-planters for their labors in building healthy churches. Each of the segments (26 in all) uncovers core truth of the Christian Faith so it will stand out as supernatural and transformational in contrast to all the religions of the world. We are nearing completion of a new discipleship training— a six-month journey in the core truths of Christianity for new believers all over the world. The training will have a three-fold use:
 - for new disciples in a one-on-one relationship with a mentor
 - for small groups in persecuted countries in which these little gathering are turning into mature local churches
 - for new churches that are being planted in Muslim regions, composed primarily of new Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) who have never heard Christian Truth accurately
- Pray for Jim's work of writing. Another new project will be about God, the Almighty Creator.
- Pray for Jim's return to Egypt, to work personally and directly with emerging leaders there, to answer questions about the Bible, Christian doctrines and ethics. This trip will be for 20 days from February 21 through March 13. Pray for all the preparation and logistics for this mission and for the transformation of those with whom we will be sharing.
- Jim's work continues through virtual connection via secure platforms like Zoom, WhatsApp, Signal, and Thee-Ma. There are also other one-on-one mentoring opportunities with young people here in the US. Pray for fruitful ministry in these areas.

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 about the continuing work in the 99 Names Project– which has now be taken up by the Muslim Background Believers.
- 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 as they train tens of thousands of leaders, working with hundreds of ministries and movements. We continue to use sports and outdoor ministry for reaching and building youth.
- Pray for our presentation of the Alpha Version for building new disciples (Discovering God Together) for use all over China especially in the context of the smaller house-groups. This material covers all the essential core truths of Christianity in 26 segments.

Sub-Saharan Africa

• Pray for our work in a number of Asian countries like Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, and Nepal. The work of building leaders continues as we work in cooperation with hundreds of local churches.

• Pray for our intiative In Africa (Cameroon, Nigeria, Uganda, Niger, etc.). We recently launched new training programs for youth.

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

- Please pray that the Albanian and Kosovo government will guarantee the freedom of religion and will not threaten our broadcast. In 2024, we received constant threats to limit our broadcast.
- Please pray for financial provision for our new television studio in Kosovo.
- Please pray for our listeners who are suffering for their faith.
- Please pray for protection for our staff and facilities.

Praises:

- Praise for new training opportunities for our staff and volunteers.
- Praise for our new our new local leaders that are joining our broadcast with new and fresh ideas.
- Praise God for an amazing time at NRB Convention in February. We are thankful for all our partner ministries and the new partnerships that started last month!
- Praise for the protection and provisions that God has provided so that we may continue our ministry.

Oasis Nuevas Fuerzas, Costa Rica (formerly Life Impact Ministries, Costa Rica) – Ben & Krista Balke

Prayers:

- Pray for the many upcoming ministry retreats scheduled for April. Please pray that the Lord would meet them here and speak to their hearts, that He would use us despite our humanness, and that we would all be sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
- 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 and their wisdom to make big decisions they are facing.
- We will also be traveling at the end of the month to a conference in Panama. This is a tri-annual (or more!) conference of Latin American ministries and missions to network and learn together. Please pray for some great connections—and maybe another "Oasis" location somewhere else in LA!

Praises:

- The tree cutting missions team went super well! There were no injuries (PTL!) and only slight damage to the roof (easily fixed!). Plus, it was fun to have a Warsaw connection visit and serve the ministry here in Costa Rica!
- What a blessing to have a front row seat to the work the Lord is doing in the lives of our ministry guests through their retreat times! "I feel valued!", "What an opportunity and a privilege!", "I feel heard and validated!", "I can truly feel the love of the Father!"—these are just some of the comments we've heard in the past few weeks! Praise the Lord for this and for the part WCC plays in these retreats as well!
- We praise God for renewing our strength to be able to care well for these Christian leaders, even when we feel a bit overwhelmed or physically tired.

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! The response was enthusiastic and other churches in the area are asking for a similar seminar to be held!

<u>Scripture Union, Uganda –</u> From Samuel Turyahikayo (Beth Baleke, Dickens Zziwa Ssenjonjo, and Chris Mugweri):

- Pray for successful Easter weekend mission to schools that as many teachers and students hear the Gospel will be convicted to put their faith in Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the mobilization for SU Uganda May 2025 youth and children camps happening across the nation.
- Pray for more faithful and passionate laborers for the work of the ministry. We still have a wide door of opportunity to go to schools with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for provision for equipping and empowering of Christian teachers so that in turn they can disciple the young people under their care.

SU Ethiopia Prayer Items.

- Pray for peace and security in the North and Western parts of Ethiopia. Movement in some of these regions is dangerous hence making it very difficult for the SU staff to run ministry activities.
- Pray for the provision of office Equipment for the New SU Staff and Associates who will need to be facilitated to do their work easily.

South Sudan Refugee Ministry Prayer Items:

• Please pray against the extreme heat and high temperatures within the Refugee settlements in Northern Uganda where even some schools are forced to close prematurely because of the unbearable heat amidst the ongoing school term.

South Sudan Prayer Needs

- Pray for the provision of Motorbikes for the VOICE implementation in Juba town where transportation is so expensive.
- Pray for the production of Purity Values materials and training in Juba.

Tanzania Prayer Needs

- Pray for the desired process of printing Self-Control VEC (Values Education Curriculum) modules at all levels.
- Pray for SU Tanzania's various organized VOICE trainings in Arusha, Moshi, Dodoma and Dar-as-Salam.

- Praise the Lord for the successful members Annual General Meeting that took place in March.
- Praise the Lord for the schools' outreach missions have taken place over 10 districts reaching over 10,000 students with the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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:

- **Board of Directors and 2MM's Staff.** Please be in prayer over our board and staff during this time of planning for next steps for 2nd Mile Missions. We are seeking the Lord together and waiting on His timing.Pray that we listen to the Holy Spirit's direction. Pray also for patience as we wait on Him and for His provision when the timing is right to build. We need the Lord's guidance and direction every day! Pray for unity, perseverance and strength as we work together for the glory of God!
- New Principal for 2025/26 School Year. We have been so blessed to have Odelice come out of retirement to help fill the interim role of Principal of Hope Academy this semester. We need your prayer support as we look for a new principal for the 2025/26 school year. Please be praying for the right person to step into this role. Pray for the board members, Odelice and Eduardo, as they search and interview for this position. God already knows who this new person will be. Pray we are listening and following His guidance!
- Holy Week. In the Dominican Republic, the schools are all closed during the week between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Please be in prayer for the children, staff, and families as they take this time to celebrate all the Lord has done through His Son! Pray that the message of Grace is spoken and shared amongst family and friends and that all of us can be bold in sharing our Faith! Not just those we serve in the DR, but here in our own backyards, neighborhoods, and communities!

- Praise the Lord for a great Awareness Trip! We were able to share the Easter Story/Gospel with many children on this trip! It was such a privilege to be with this group and watch how God used them to be a blessing to the staff and children of the 2MM's schools! Thank you for praying!
- We thank the Lord for the little church in Monte Verde (Haitian refugee village) and for Pastor Elvis who shepherds those who attend there. We are thankful for the beacon of Hope they bring to their community! We continue to pray the Lord sustains them and grows their congregation both in spiritual depth and numbers!
- Praise God for all He does and continues to do for the least of these!

Here at WCC

Prayers:

- 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 God for a great 2024 Wayumi Retreat experience! Please pray that those who attended remain excited and motivated about the truths they learned about the role of the church in The Great Commission. 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! We are in talks about starting an Albanian translation!