



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
“...[B]ecause God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.” Hebrews 13:5b-6a (NIV)		This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by: Evonne S. Showalter			1 Join Armando and Veronica Sanchez, church planters at Iglesia Shalom in Waynesboro, Va., in praying for the church's music program and for hearts in their midst to be searching and open to God's word as they grow in fruitfulness.	2 Join in praying with Steve and Laura Campbell that a women's meeting held today in Podgorica, Montenegro, will have a deep impact on participants. The meeting was postponed from September 18 due to Covid.
3 Pray that God would send more workers to engage in evangelism and discipleship to the 20 million Isaan people of northeast Thailand, and pray for God to awaken hunger in the Isaan people to know the living God.	4 As Jason Wagner, chaplain at the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail, celebrates his birthday today, pray for God to make a way forward for classes and religious services to restart in the jail as there is so much need.	5 Pray that tranSend intern Hannah Shultz will have great wisdom and humility as she relates with and guides the teenagers of Esperanza de Vida, Harrisonburg, Va., in discipleship.	6 Join Norma Teles, director of the Joshua Center in Lezhë, Albania, in praying for the teachers and children, and that the Joshua Center will be a place that brings joy and learning to the families that attend.	7 Pray for the reopening of Shawn and Laura Green's home Bible study in Italy, for growth in the believers that attend, and for new persons of peace to join. Also pray for wisdom and direction in some new ministry opportunities.	8 On Fridays, Lydia Musselman and others from 264 OSH in Harrisonburg, Va., join in prayer for the students of EMU and the local area. Ask God to bless the students' relationships and meet them in the dark spaces of anxiety and isolation.	9 Lift up tranSend intern Nathan Carr in prayer as he begins his internship with VMissions. Ask God to give him and jail chaplain Jason Wagner wisdom and guidance as they seek new mission opportunities in the local jail community.
10 Pray that the church, the children of God of every age, will be salt and light in our location, recreation, and vocation. Pray for boldness in sharing the gospel in everyday life.	11 Join tranSend intern C. Farah in praying that she will make herself more sensitive to the Holy Spirit to guide her in all good things and speak through her. She desires to be fruitful, not just busy in her work in Harrisonburg, Va.	12 Lift up Iglesia Renuevo, a church planted in Winston-Salem, N.C., by Juan José Lagos, as they seek to share the love of Jesus and exhibit the kind of renewal and transformation that comes from abiding in the Lord.	13 Lift up the church planting ministry of John David Thacker, who serves in Charleston, W.Va. Join him in praying that he will plant churches that are designed from their birth to create and multiply disciples of Jesus.	14 Join Mark and Sarah Schoenhals in praying for a person to serve in a short-term assignment in northeast Thailand to empower them through child care and home-school help. Learn more at vmmissions.org/child-care-assistant	15 Pray that Tyler and Kendra Yoder, church planters with Garden City Church in Richmond, Va., will find new opportunities to deepen relationships within their neighborhood and beyond, and invite new people to faith.	16 Tomorrow, Steve Campbell will bring the morning message at Guri I Themelit church in Lezhë, Albania. Pray for him to deliver powerful words from the Lord and make good connections across the border from Montenegro.
17 Lift up Lezha Academic Center director Klementina Shahini in prayer as she celebrates her birthday today in Lezhë, Albania. Ask God for protection over her health and for the students, teachers, and staff of LAC through this school year.	18 Shawn and Laura Green's children Lucas, Emmanuel, Matteo, and Isabella are beginning a new year of Ora Felice (Saturday VBS) this month in Italy. Join them in praying for new kids to attend as well.	19 Lift up the education ministry of House of Hope in Southeast Asia, where a VMissions family serves. Pray for abundance of creativity, patience, and love that is needed for teaching, and pray for the teaching team.	20 Pray for workers serving in college ministry assignments at James Madison University: Becca Gaines, Hannah Lee, and Ashawrie White. Ask God for a deep hunger and a spirit of openness on campus to the gospel.	21 Pray for tranSend intern Andressa Coutinho, who recently began serving in northern Albania, where she is learning language and cultural adaptation, and serving in evangelism outreach efforts with the local church.	22 Lift up the Emmaus Gemeinschaft missional community in Mannheim, Germany, as they reach out to neighbors and share the love of Jesus. Pray also for the David and Rebekka Stutzman family as they serve there.	23 As Shawn Green celebrates his birthday today in Termoli, Italy, join him in praying for opportunities to share with his immediate neighbors and the parents of his kids' school friends.
24 Pray that God will help us all effectively communicate the gospel to the next generation, so that seeds planted will not be burned up, but refined like gold, and bear much good fruit.	25 Pray for church planter Alfonso Alvarado as he disciples others in Harrisonburg, Va. through meeting in small groups in homes, evangelizing new families in one-on-one meetings, and visiting people at the local hospital.	26 Lift up M.W. in prayer as she celebrates her birthday today. She and J.W. are on extended home assignment in Pennsylvania and anticipate returning to Central Asia next year. Ask the Lord for guidance through many preparations.	27 Pray for Elena Buckwalter de Satalaya and her husband Freddy as they minister Jesus' healing and hope to their community in Iquitos, Peru, after a devastating fire in August that destroyed five houses and the church building.	28 Pray for Raleigh* and Opal* and their family as they serve among Muslims in North Africa. Ask the Lord for open doors, persons of peace, and for receptive hearts to the good news of Jesus. (*pseudonyms)	29 Lift up Rafael and Solange Tartari in prayer as they minister in Shkodër, Albania, bearing witness to Jesus and leading disciples into a daily life of prayer and knowledge of the word of God.	30 Pray for J.W. as he celebrates his birthday today. Ask God to richly bless his life over the next year, and to guide him and M.W. through unknowns and details for their return to ministry in Central Asia.

Call to Prayer

From the time I was a little girl, I heard that I needed to pray. How important prayer is for people who want to follow Jesus, and I certainly wanted to follow Jesus. How powerful prayer is to change things around me, and there certainly were things around me that I wanted to see changed.

However, I found prayer, in the ways that it was modeled to me, very difficult. I struggled to find the right words. I felt self-conscious saying my prayers out loud. If I tried to pray inside my head, it lasted a whole five seconds before I was distracted. I always felt guilty, feeling I should be praying more. But to be honest, I didn't really "get" prayer. If God already knows my thoughts, even before I think them, why do I need to voice them? And since he is sovereign, isn't he going to do what he wants whether I pray or not? Maybe you've had the same struggles.

God really does want to teach us to pray. He has been taking my husband and me through such a journey over the past two decades. Step by step, he has been teaching us how to hear him and obey. Prayer has become much more than something that we "should" do. It is something we desire and enjoy, something that feels like a great honor.

In John 15:14-16, Jesus is speaking to his disciples, "You are my friends if you keep on doing what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you [my] friends, because I have revealed to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in my name [as my representative] he may give to you."

These verses speak of a dynamic relationship of asking, hearing, and obeying. As representatives of Jesus, prayer keeps our relationship with God moving and growing as we declare and live out his purposes on the earth. Could it be that the God of the universe desires to speak to me? Could it be that he wants to share with us his dreams and plans and that we get the amazing privilege and honor to co-labor in relationship with him to see those things accomplished on the earth? The answer is Yes, Yes—more than we know!

—RUTH HERSHEY

Answers to Prayer



- A VMissions initiative to cultivate lives of prayer is meeting weekly over Zoom in a 12 week cohort with leaders Michael and Ruth Hershey. The three-month exploration and discovery is called Cultivating a Life of Prayer. Praise the Lord for the interest shown in this cohort, and continue to pray that this journey in prayer will be a significant and powerful movement of God's Spirit!
- TranSend intern Hannah Shultz reports that there have been many answered prayers recently in her music and discipleship ministry, including that several persons have come back to the Esperanza de Vida (EDV) church after months of not attending. Praise the Lord for how God is at work in each of their lives!

Hannah also shared this story: "Last week I encountered a Cuban couple who recently crossed the border. They are in need of work and God put me in their path. I gave them a bilingual Bible to learn about Jesus. The wife Ana (name changed) did not know who Jesus was before our encounter. She is curious and felt God's presence as we prayed. Praise God for his continual patient pursuit of us! Please pray that our church (EDV) will have wisdom to know how to help this couple, and that they will read the bilingual Bible I gave them to learn about Jesus."

Ways to Pray

When praying for mission workers, pray for:

- A growing relationship with God
- Time and energy to nurture that relationship
- Deep awareness of God's love
- Availability of spiritual mentors

2. Emotional needs

- Growing sense of God's presence
- Loving relationships
- Healthy self-image
- Ability to adapt to another culture

3. Physical needs

- Health and strength
- Adequate living conditions
- Safety in danger

4. Family relationships

- Healthy give-and-take
- Dealing with family concerns far away
- Finding "family" where they are

5. Team relationships

- Ability to work in harmony
- Courage to be honest
- A sense of appreciation for others

6. Effective ministry

- Grace to live and communicate the gospel
- Eagerness to learn from another culture
- Fluency with other languages
- Open doors that lead to changed lives

7. Country of service

- A stable political situation
- A good relationship with government
- Patience to deal with bureaucracy
- A vibrant church