



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws. Psalm 119:30 (NIV)</p>	<p>1 Pray for the final efforts by VMissions staff to wrap up the Church of Many Cultures campaign. Thank the Lord for the generosity and passion shown by so many donors to support the work of mission.</p>	<p>2 Pray for Norma Teles as she is in the U.S., for God to sustain her and multiply her ministry efforts as she returns to lead the Joshua Center early education ministry in Lezhë, Albania.</p>	<p>3 As they serve in Southeast Asia, pray for opportunities for Yosiah and Anita Rahma* to pray for people there, share stories about Jesus, and show God's love. Pray for them to be attentive to the Spirit's leading. (*pseudonyms)</p>	<p>4 Join in prayer with a family serving in South Asia for a believing couple who are facing some major relational difficulties. Pray for each of them to know they are loved by God, and that they will hear God's voice and reconcile.</p>	<p>5 Dan and Mary Hess, serving in Milot, Albania, are in the U.S. on home assignment. Pray for believers in that town to stay encouraged in the Lord as the Hesses are absent for two months.</p>	<p>6 As Rebekka Stutzman celebrates her birthday today in Mannheim, Germany, pray that the Lord will bear good fruit through her church planting and networking ministry alongside her husband David and their children.</p>
<p>7 Two workers share a birthday today. Ask God to lift up Laura Green in Termoli, Italy, and Solange Tartari, in Shkodër, Albania, as they faithfully serve the Lord and multiply disciples in those places.</p>	<p>8 As Laura Campbell celebrates her birthday today in Virginia after recently returning from 10 years of service with her family in Montenegro, ask the Lord to help her and husband Steve discern where God is guiding them in the time ahead.</p>	<p>9 Pray that the kids who attended the Worship and Music Camp in July, coordinated by Hannah Shultz, serving in music and discipleship ministry in Harrisonburg, Va., will continue to experience the transformative love of Jesus.</p>	<p>10 Pray for Steve Horst and Bethany Tobin as they return to Thailand today and begin their new term. Pray for energy, wisdom and grace for good reconnections in Nam Yuen.</p>	<p>11 Lift up college students as they begin the school year later this month. Ask God to open hearts to opportunities for spiritual engagement and for God's transformative movement on campuses.</p>	<p>12 Pray for the new and returning workers who are currently engaged in building networks of support among churches and individuals for their terms ahead. Ask God to provide what is needed.</p>	<p>13 Pray for Mosaic of Grace Church, Harrisonburg, Va., as the congregation experiences a leadership transition on the Elder team. Pray that Mosaic participants would hear God's call and respond in obedience to serve and lead as Elders.</p>
<p>14 Many workers deal with complex and frustrating visa issues which can require them to leave their countries for a time and face bureaucratic obstacles. Pray that the Lord will make the process quick and smooth.</p>	<p>15 As Veronica Sanchez celebrates her birthday today, ask God to bless and expand her church planting and pastoral ministry at Iglesia Shalom in Waynesboro and Enciende una Luz in Harrisonburg, alongside her husband Armando.</p>	<p>16 As Andressa Coutinho, a tranSend intern serving in Shkodër, Albania, continues language and culture learning, pray for deep connections and opportunities to share the gospel with others.</p>	<p>17 Today is Tierzah Horst's sixth birthday, serving with her parents Steve Horst and Bethany Tobin in Thailand. Lift her up in prayer, for her to have a happy, healthy year knowing God's love for her.</p>	<p>18 Church planter Alfonso Alvarado, Iglesia Menonita Monte Moriah, Lacey Spring, Va., recently shared about immigrant families who stay or leave as jobs/housing dictate, leading to constant church transition. Pray for new families and stability.</p>	<p>19 The Horst and Schoenhals families have a vision to help many new mission workers begin pioneer church planting work in northeast Thailand. Pray for the provision of workers, wisdom in how to proceed, and protection for all involved.</p>	<p>20 Pray for the new people that God is equipping to step into college ministries roles in Harrisonburg, Va., on the campus of James Madison University.</p>
<p>21 Ask God to guide church planter Diomedes Franco and his wife Victoria in La Vega, Dominican Republic, to new people and opportunities to show the love of Jesus and to share the gospel with those in need.</p>	<p>22 As the busy summer season winds down, pray for rest and encouragement for Lee and Peg Martin, serving with SWAP (Sharing with Appalachian People) in West Virginia, as they reflect on all the work done in service to others.</p>	<p>23 Pray for the spiritual fruit from the SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest) weeklong bikepacking adventure last month. Ask God to continue impacting these youth from the Shenandoah Valley to live lives of discipleship and service to the Lord.</p>	<p>24 Lift up the new VMissions workers in prayer who have recently been appointed, as they build support and prepare for their assignments. Ask the Lord for provision and guidance as they begin.</p>	<p>25 Pray for the Lord's encouragement and refreshment of Raleigh and Opal* and their family, serving in North Africa. Ask God to open doors for gospel conversations and for a strong support network. (*pseudonyms)</p>	<p>26 Lift up The Soil and The Seed Project that Seth and Theresa Crissman work with in the Shenandoah Valley. Praise God for the wonderful responses to their collections of music and resources so far.</p>	<p>27 Pray for the networking and church planting efforts of John David Thacker in Charleston, W.Va., particularly the ways he is partnering with local congregations to reach neighbors in the city.</p>
<p>28 Pray that the Lord will send many workers into the huge harvest of the 10/40 window, the area of the world with the fewest followers of Jesus and many of the most challenging places to serve in mission.</p>	<p>29 As Kendra Yoder celebrates her birthday today, lift up her church planting ministry alongside her husband Tyler at Garden City Church in Richmond, Va. Ask God to expand their outreach in the community.</p>	<p>30 As Covid restrictions are lifted in Thailand, Life Enrichment Church is finding new energy for evangelism in nearby unreached areas. Pray that they will follow the Spirit's leading to those who are eager for the gospel.</p>	<p>31 Pray for the Lord's empowerment of disciples who make disciples, and churches that plant churches, as VMissions focuses on global church planting in the U.S. and around the world.</p>	<p>This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by: Bob and Rosalie Eshleman in memory of their son Lee Eshleman</p>		

Call to Prayer

What do you do?” “Where do you work?” “What’s your job?” In our North American culture, it’s the first question people ask and often is one of the more significant ways we define our identity.

Maybe you’ve already landed your dream job, or maybe you struggle to find purpose and energy from your work. Maybe you get along great with your co-workers, or maybe you find your patience and grace reaching their limits. Maybe you work for an organization whose explicit goal is to share God’s love, or maybe you find yourself in a secular workplace that isn’t concerned about kingdom values. In this world of “work,” where is God?

We so often categorize the various pieces of our lives—work, home, church, etc. We may even find that we take on different personas or identities depending on what activity we are engaging in. Our “work-self” may be different from our “home-self” or our “church-self.”

Our culture teaches us that there is a divide between the secular and the sacred—but what are the possibilities if we lived as if there were no divide? God is inviting us to see the world, and the workplace, through his eyes. This requires a shift—taking a step back from the secular/sacred divide and beginning to look for what God is doing; to look for the sacred within the secular. This “God consciousness,” which Jon W. Quinn defines as a “constant awareness of God’s divine presence throughout the various routines of daily life,” will shape the way we interact with the world around us. Developing a “God consciousness” is a bit like learning to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

The possibilities are limitless when you begin to see every aspect of life through the eyes of God. As Henri Nouwen reminds us, “Only prayer allows us to hear another voice, to respond to the larger possibilities.”

May you listen and look for the ways God is moving in your workplace. May you be moved by the ways God is wanting to heal and transform people, circumstances, and structures. May you engage your work as a witness to the good news.

—SARAH SHOWALTER

Answers to Prayer

- Yosiah and Anita Rahma (pseudonyms), serving in a slum in a major Southeast Asian city, praise God for grace in sustaining them through a challenging few months. “During our three week ‘summer break,’ Yosiah’s mom was hospitalized for two of the weeks. He had to spend a lot of time in the hospital with her, as well as organize who would do his shift while we were out of town or busy doing airport runs. We are very grateful that she had a successful gallbladder-removal surgery and is recovering at home now. We are also so grateful for our teammates who took shifts in the hospital when Yugo couldn’t. Please pray for her continued recovery,” Anita wrote.
- The staff and board of VMissions praise God for the recent worship service celebrating A Church of Many Cultures on July 14, featuring the message “Hope for the Nations” by board member Carlos Malvaez, testimonies, and a commissioning service for new and reappointed workers. Held at Zion Mennonite Church, Broadway, Va., as the sun was setting over glorious mountain views, the workers, staff, and congregation joined in a litany of commissioning, declaring, “Yes! The steadfast love of the Lord endures forever!”

Ways to Pray

- **For open doors to share the gospel**
Pray for God to open doors where workers can share the gospel freely in countries where it’s allowed. And in countries where it’s against the law, pray for creative connections and opportunities.
- **For boldness in sharing the truth**
Pray for them to speak with the bold truth of the gospel, soaked with love and grace, to be an agent of change.
- **For clarity of mind and message**
Pray for their words to be succinct and well understood, for hearts to hear and receive the good news and for it to be presented clearly.
- **For a harvest**
Pray for each seed that is sown to be watered, be tended, grow, and eventually bear fruit. Pray that God would do amazing things in each life, in each family, in each community for God’s glory. Pray for the lost to be saved.
- **For language fluency**
Pray for mission workers to speak well and understand clearly the language(s) where they serve. Pray for them to learn quickly, remember accurately, and pronounce well.
- **For cultural understanding and connection**
Pray for the workers to be aware of cultural differences and to embrace them. Pray for a minimum of faux pas and offenses. Pray for ways to bridge the cultural divide and make solid connections with people.
- **For unity within their team**
If the worker has a team they work with, pray for unity among them. Pray for them to truly love one another, to be patient, to extend mercy, and to share purpose. Pray for them not to be competitive. It’s hard when you work and live so closely in another country; the stress runs high and can create unnecessary challenges.
- **For shared vision and purpose with other local churches**
Pray for all of the local workers that serve God to see just that: their shared belief and purpose. Pray that they are not divided by doctrinal differences that have no bearing on eternity.