

JANUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."	Philippians 3:10-12 (NIV)		1 Happy New Year! Pray for the good news of life in Jesus to transform lives and multiply believing communities near and far in this next year as God's Spirit empowers the church for mission.	2 Lift up Lydia Showalter as she transitions this month from discipleship training at Vida220 in Costa Rica to five months of ministry outreach as an intern with Viva Youth in Bogotá, Colombia.	3 Pray for the prenatal group that Anita Rahma (name changed) works with in Southeast Asia. Pray for the new mothers and those still waiting—for good nutrition and health, and compassionate midwifery care.	4 As new families joining the mission team in South Asia are adjusting very well, pray for local friends for them who will speak in the local language, who are spiritually hungry, and who are good ambassadors of the culture.
5 Pray for safety and emotional strength as new VMMissions worker Priska DiGennaro travels to her internship assignment with Viva Youth in Bogotá, Colombia.	6 Today is the first Perspectives class in Harrisonburg, Va. It will meet each Monday evening until April 28. Pray for impactful lessons, engaging teachers, and for God's movement through the course to catalyze mission.	7 Pray for the new Isaan Doorways program, which aims to help new mission workers get a strong start to long-term service among the Isaan in Thailand. Lift up the VMMissions workers who work with this new program.	8 Join Michael Hershey, serving at Immerse International, Millersville, Pa., in praying for strategies to know how to continue to partner with the local community in regular rhythms of prayer at Immerse.	9 Pray that neighbors near the Shalom Church in Palermo, Italy, where Marcello Arrostuto and Marianna Vaglica serve, will be deeply impacted by the Lord through the congregation's outreach efforts.	10 Join church planters Mike and Risha Metzler in praying that their church, Mosaic of Grace, will grow in trusting God, in loving each other and in imagination for God's mission as they send people out in the next few months.	11 Join Joyel Allen, serving in college ministry, in praying that Every Nation Campus will be able to become a club on her campus of Mary Baldwin University, Staunton, Va. Pray also for more student leaders to join.
12 Pray that the church that Shawn and Laura Green serve in Termoli, Italy, will be agents of reconciliation and a witness demonstrating and sharing life in Jesus in a largely post-Christian context.	13 Pray for God's leading at the annual Council for International Anabaptist Ministries (CIM) as agencies report and seek to collaborate together. Three VMMissions staff members are attending the four-day meeting in Ohio.	14 Lift up Raleigh and Opal (names changed) and their family, serving in North Africa. Pray for God's favor as they live incarnationally and sow gospel seeds. May they bear fruit among Berber people unreached by the gospel.	15 Join Baker Rigg, serving as chaplain at Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail, in praying for the continued movement of the Lord among inmates and administrators. Pray for God's wisdom in planning and decision-making.	16 As Randall Schlabach meets with men seeking recovery from addiction to pornography in Wayne and Holmes counties in Ohio, pray for new men looking for help to find his ministry, called Eleftheria.	17 Ask God for workers to reach the 1.5 million Bashkir people with the gospel, most of whom live in Russia and follow Islam. Only 1 in 91 are followers of Jesus. Pray for breakthrough and transformation.	18 Pray for people who are discerning God's call to minister in a service assignment this year. Ask for clarity and alignment with God's will, and encouragement and wisdom in the process.
19 As SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest), based in Harrisonburg, Va., develops a Crucial Conversation on Wisdom & Media into a reproducible resource, pray for wisdom as they seek to make it very engaging for young people.	20 Ask God to guide and encourage members of Ministry Support Teams (MSTs) as they partner with workers to faithfully support them through prayer, communication, financial coordination, and field visits.	21 In situations where decisions to follow Jesus result in family or cultural persecution, pray for God to strengthen believers' faith and show their communities the real transformation of new life in Jesus.	22 Join church planter Juan José Lagos in lifting up the discipleship groups and children's classes at Iglesia Cristiana Renuevo, Winston-Salem, NC, that they will be impactful and lead everyone to know and serve the Lord.	23 Lift up the board of VMMissions as a quarterly board meeting begins tomorrow through Saturday. Pray for a Spirit-led time of gathering and wisdom for the direction of VMMissions.	24 As Bethany Tobin celebrates her birthday today, ask God to bless her and her family as they have responded in faith to serve the largely unreached Isaan people group of Thailand in the capital, Bangkok.	25 Join the Tartari family, serving in Shkodër, Albania, in praying for Albanian men. Reaching them in particular with the gospel takes a lot of hard work and the results are not immediate. Pray for God to move in their hearts.
26 Pray for participants planning to go on E ³ Collective teams this spring and summer. Ask God to bless the preparation and the experience as a taste of life on mission. Lift up the trip leaders and coaches.	27 Pray for some members of the VMMissions Central Asia team as they prepare to move to new cities in the country later this year to establish new businesses for transformation and sow gospel seeds where Jesus is not yet known.	28 Lift up church planters Armando and Veronica Sanchez and ask God to bless them and their church as they reach out to neighbors with the gospel and multiply disciples through Iglesia Shalom in Waynesboro, Va.	29 Pray for the breakthrough of the gospel for the Arab people of Tunisia. Virtually all are at least nominally Muslim; only 1 in 455 people follow Jesus. Ask the Lord to send workers into this harvest field.	30 Join Vicki Barnes, serving in college ministry at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va., in praying for spiritual strength and more workers to join at VCU. Pray for gospel breakthrough on that campus.	31 Join James and Anne (names changed), serving in South Asia, in praying for wisdom and growth in servant leadership as young local believers meet to plan a Christian youth conference in their city in February.	Consider opportunities to sponsor the calendar to help us share this resource with our network of prayer supporters. If you are interested, please contact our office at (540) 434-9727.

Call to Prayer

As we serve in Central Asia, we can testify to God's provision. There were so many barriers and obstacles that we had to overcome to even be here. We couldn't do this on our own; it was only through God's work and provision.

God is praying through our own prayers. And it's not just us, but also the concern of how our children will adjust and adapt here. We have seen how God has provided in this area: friends and connections in our former setting and now in our new location. And we have also seen God's provision back home, especially in bringing brothers and sisters around Marta's parents to care for them as their only child is serving far away.

The larger body of Christ can join us in prayer for the local believers here, and for their spiritual growth. Ask God to keep the door open for them to gather and grow in discipleship.

We want to reflect that, in every area of our lives, we are shaped by spiritual transformation.

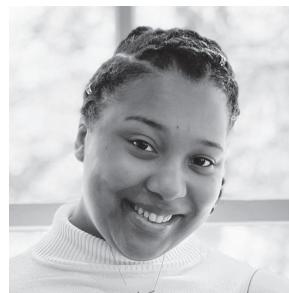
Pray that the Lord will prepare the hearts of those who do not yet believe to hear and receive the good news about Jesus. Our biggest desire is to be connected to a circle of local believers and other friends with whom we can share the gospel. It's easy to surround ourselves with others who are also foreigners in this country, but that's not our purpose.

Pray for open doors for these relationships, and for our family as we serve here. Our desire is that we can beautifully reflect Christ in our relationships, among our family and with others.

We want to be here as long as the Lord permits. Please support us in this work by asking God to nurture our spiritual growth and for the cultivation of our own discipleship. Our work of sharing new life in Jesus with our neighbors will overflow from this.

—DAVID AND MARTA (names changed), serving in Central Asia

Worker Focus



Worker profile: Joyel Allen

Service program:
transForm

Serving since: 2022

Assignment: I serve as a campus missionary to Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, Virginia, with Every Nation Campus in partnership with VMMSions. College is such a special time in life. The college campus offers many different lifestyles and experiences that students can choose from. This is why I am so happy that God placed me on the college campus. I get to share the gospel with and disciple students from many different backgrounds. These students who receive the gospel return to their families, the workplace, and the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. I believe that if we can change the campus, we can change the world.

Biggest challenge: I am the point person for our ministry at MBU, so everything falls under me. I find myself constantly reevaluating what is most important for me to spend my time on. I love my job so much that I don't mind spending extra time on campus or working on administrative tasks, but as a result of that, my work-life balance needs some work. As a new ministry at MBU, we get to start fresh and decide what messages we want to communicate. But we also have to operate off of a smaller foundation.

Biggest joy: My biggest joy is building relationships with the students. I love them all so much. I love to hear about what they're going through and being there for them. And it is through that relationship building that discipleship happens. God allows me to speak his truth over them and show them God's love. I'm not sure why God chose me to do this—but I couldn't be more grateful.

Ways to Pray

Other VMMSions college ministry workers with Every Nation Campus:



Destiny Alston

Serving at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia



Vicki Barnes

Serving at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia



Alia Muhammad

Serving at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

Pray for college ministries:

Pray for spiritual strength and protection

Pray for workers to maintain a constant reliance on God and for encouragement in scripture and study.

Pray for more workers and student leaders

Ask God to send more workers into this harvest field and raise up student leaders with a passion for sharing God's good news.

Pray for gospel breakthrough

College can lead students in many directions. Pray that God will ignite the sense of something missing in students who don't yet know him. Pray that the gospel will be demonstrated by transformation in students' lives.

Pray for provision

Ask God to lead new partners to join God's work through local campus ministries and support worker ministries through faithful prayer and finances.