

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>“Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.”</p> <p>Hebrews 4:12-13 (NIV)</p>			<p>This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by:</p> <p>Weaver's FlooringAmerica.</p> <p>3245 S. Main St, Harrisonburg, VA weaversflooringamerica.com</p>			<p>1 Pray for SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest), Harrisonburg, Va., as they prepare to launch the SLAQ 2.0 Campaign towards a greater level of gospel impact among the next generation. Lift up Ken Wettig, SLAQ's director.</p>
<p>2 Pray for a clear vision for Randall Schlabach as he meets with men in recovery from pornography addiction through his Ohio-based ministry called Eleftheria, and for new men to join who are looking for help.</p>	<p>3 Lift up the ongoing Perspectives classes each Monday evening at Eastside Church in Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for impactful lessons, engaging teachers, and for God's movement through the course to catalyze mission.</p>	<p>4 As Lydia Showalter serves as a tranSend intern with Viva Youth in Bogotá, Colombia, pray for patience and understanding on her team, and for courage and language skills as she relates to people.</p>	<p>5 Lift up Lewis and Ashley Roberts, serving as interns in recovery ministry in Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for ministry and life balance, for partners to come alongside, and for monthly financial provision.</p>	<p>6 Pray for Pino and Rosanna Arena, pastors of Shalom, a VMMissions partner congregation in Palermo, Italy. Ask the Lord to strengthen them more and more for the shepherding and administration of the church.</p>	<p>7 Pray for the Uzbek people group, located primarily in Central Asia. The vast majority are Muslim. Many young Uzbeks are non-religious. Pray for God to raise up local churches that multiply and live the good news of Jesus.</p>	<p>8 Join church planters serving Spanish-speaking communities in the US in praying for connections with new families and youth as they share God's good news and gather together. Pray for good kingdom fruit to result.</p>
<p>9 Pray for the ministry of Yacoub Rasul (name changed) as he connects with the Arabic-speaking community in Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for open doors and prepared hearts for the gospel to impact families and the community.</p>	<p>10 As Steve Horst celebrates his birthday today, pray for a healthy balance of ministry engagement, family time, and spiritual enrichment as he serves in Bangkok, Thailand, with his wife Bethany and children over the next year.</p>	<p>11 Lift up tranSend intern Malakai Wettig, serving with Viva Youth in Bogotá, Colombia, as he adjusts to a new living situation and rhythms of learning Spanish, and starts a running club.</p>	<p>12 Pray for Baker Rigg, chaplain at the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail, Harrisonburg, Va., as he ministers to inmates. Pray that the hunger for God and spiritual growth he has seen in the jail continues and multiplies.</p>	<p>13 Join Anita Rahma, serving in a slum in Southeast Asia, in praying for patience and love for the five community women who teach at House of Hope. Pray for more meaningful conversations with them about faith.</p>	<p>14 Pray for Rafael and Solange Tartari, serving in Shkodër, Albania, as they meet with people for one-on-one faith conversations and equip the local church to engage every person God has put around them.</p>	<p>15 Lift up Adam and Elise Sauder (names changed), who will transition from YWAM Myrtle Beach to a season of ministry support raising in Harrisonburg, Va., as they prepare for service in South Asia through tranSend.</p>
<p>16 Pray for Isaan church leaders and members of Life Enrichment Church in Thailand as they implement their vision for church multiplication. Ask God for wisdom in how VMMissions workers help engage in this vision.</p>	<p>17 Pray for workers at home and around the world who work to share the good news with young people. Ask God for open hearts and the acceptance of God's great love as they learn to know and follow Jesus.</p>	<p>18 Pray for the church that Shawn and Laura Green serve in Termoli, Italy, as they seek to demonstrate an authentic and transformative relationship with Jesus in a largely post-Christian context.</p>	<p>19 Nathan and Anya Stan (names changed) and their daughters are serving on the Central Asia business for transformation (B4T) Launch Team. Pray for them in this year of intense language study and cultural immersion.</p>	<p>20 Lift up David and Rebekka Stutzman, serving in Mannheim, Germany, who are seeing fruit from their years of connecting people to the gospel and spiritual community. Pray for faith multiplication and local leadership to emerge.</p>	<p>21 As Risha Metzler celebrates her birthday today, ask God to give her wisdom, creativity and unity in leadership of Mosaic of Grace Church alongside her husband Mike as they co-pastor this church plant in Harrisonburg, Va.</p>	<p>22 As E3 Collective teams are planned and come together this year, pray for the Holy Spirit to guide the right people to participate and experience a taste of life on mission. Lift up the trip leaders and coaches.</p>
<p>23 As Yosiah Rahma (name changed) celebrates his birthday today, ask God to refresh him daily with the presence of Jesus and bless his incarnational ministry with his wife and two sons in a slum community in Southeast Asia.</p>	<p>24 As Risa Yutzy celebrates her birthday today, pray for her marketplace ministry alongside her husband Ben in Timberville, Va., as they seek to be disciple-makers and kingdom multipliers in everyday situations.</p>	<p>25 Lift up Raleigh and Opal (names changed) and their family, serving in North Africa. Pray for this season of gospel sowing. May it bear fruit in their context among Berber people unreached by the gospel.</p>	<p>26 Lift up Jay (name changed) who leads the Business for Transformation Launch Team in Central Asia, which helps new workers get established for the first two years. Pray for guidance to support the team well.</p>	<p>27 Pray for the Japanese people who are mostly Buddhist. Less than 1.5% in Japan are Christian. Pray for the Lord to send workers to that place to share the love and hope of Jesus.</p>	<p>28 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.</p>	

Call to Prayer

Prayer plays a very important role in the lives of the Global South workers like us. As workers devote their lives to the habit of spending time with the Lord, it helps them to abide in God.

It is also a good practice to pray through the Word, because there are many spiritual battles. Our assignment country in Central Asia has a history of Islamic faith, but shamanism, occultism, and witchcraft are still practiced here. Shamans and fortune tellers are still in high demand.

The power of intercessory prayer can be revealed in the lives of those who intercede and the lives of those who are the object of the prayers of intercession. It's an opportunity to walk side by side, shoulder to shoulder with workers from the Global South.

Usually, when we are not feeling well physically or emotionally, we pray to the Lord to raise up our intercessors. When the battle seems too big for us, it comforts our hearts to know that there are people praying for us.

We see the value of prayer when the doors that were closed are opened, and like when a worker who is not able to sleep well starts getting better rest. When the difficult moments on the field become lighter, we know that it is because there are people standing in "the gap" (Ezekiel 22:30). We see God working among the people we're living with as well, breaking through the darkness, breaking chains of bondage, and setting people free.

It is an encouragement for workers to know that people back home are standing up in prayer for them. Latino workers especially tend to share their prayer points or their needs more openly, because when they know that people are praying for them, their faith increases. Then they experience the precious feeling of "I'm not alone, I have people that are not here with me, but who are for me; they are on my side!"

—PAULO AND ANA (names changed), serving in Central Asia

Worker Focus



Worker profile:

Andrea Hamsher

Service location: Mannheim, Germany
Program: transSend
Serving since: 2024

Assignment: My assignment for the next year is assisting Dave and Rebekka Stutzman at die Villa, a community center in Mannheim. Die Villa is located in a neighborhood with both German and immigrant residents, and offers a place for people of different cultures to meet, serve, and be served by one another. I help with various groups and programs that run through die Villa, including a knitting group, cafe, game night, and kid's gardening group. I also participate in the Emmaus Gemeinde, a small discipleship group centered around table fellowship and discussion.

Biggest challenge: My biggest challenge thus far has been adjusting to a different language and culture! Even though I am grateful that I had the opportunity to study German in high school and college and already have some grasp of the language and culture, it is still challenging to adapt to living in a new context. Since the Mannheim area has a strong dialect, the language is a little different than what I'm used to and can be harder to understand. Even trivial things such as switching over to the metric system or opening windows the correct way require more thought and energy!

Biggest joy: So far, it has been listening to different people talk about what's happening in their lives, both positive and negative. It has been good to connect through shared hobbies such as knitting or playing board games. I have really been able to see how offering a space for fellowship and building intentional relationships has allowed people who may have had difficult histories with the church to be more open to hearing about Christ.

Ways to Pray

INEO Netzwerk, a resourcing ministry for the Mennonite church in Germany, has hosted and organized a yearly prayer month in February for a number of years. The network has invited people to write devotions for a daily devotional and hosted weekly online gatherings for sharing and prayer during the month, inviting more people to participate and lead the online gatherings.

"We came to a deep realization of the dependency we have on God and the need for prayer to ground our hope and faith," writes David Stutzman, a VM Missions worker in Mannheim, Germany. "We don't know the impact the prayer month will have. We know that the gatherings have been meaningful for the scores of people that have participated and for many, many more who have used the devotional for personal prayer time or in small groups."

2025 Theme: ACTING BY PRAYER

Content translated from IMPULSE FÜR EINEN GEBETSMONAT at <https://www.ineo-netzwerk.de/>

We want to pray because we ask God for change and inspiration, because we hope for encouragement and guidance from Him on how we can best contribute to the development of our communities. Our experience shows that God is constantly challenging us to act: to become active, to create, to take steps. Let's think about what we are praying for in a practical way.

This year we have a different kind of impulse for each of the weeks. Renewal of communities is a spiritual process. This month of prayer aims to be a contribution to this.

- Week one: start with prayer for individual members of the community.
- Week two: pray for teams, house groups, and church leadership.
- Week three: focus the prayer impulses on the whole church.
- In the final week, pray for the local environment: personal neighborhoods or neighborhoods around the church building.