

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for Him.”</p> <p>Lamentations 3:22-24 (NIV)</p>		<p>1 This is a busy season for workers who are beginning their ministry or entering a new term of service to build networks of support. Pray for God’s abundant provision and the support of partners to meet the needs.</p>	<p>2 Join Marcello Arrostituto and Marianna Vaglica, serving at Shalom Church in Palermo, Italy, in praying for Giovanna who has faced the loss of her husband and other significant trials in her family and community.</p>	<p>3 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>4 Lift up Norma Teles, serving in Lezhë, Albania, and pray that she will have the right words and actions to convey the love of Jesus and that the mothers she relates to will have a desire to follow Jesus.</p>	<p>5 Join Baker Rigg, chaplain at Rockingham-Harrisonburg Regional Jail, in praying that his quiet times would be a place of encounter with the Lord, and for continued favor with the inmates and the jail administration.</p>
<p>6 With instability and political uncertainty in Venezuela, join Jorge and Ginny Enciso, serving in Bogotá, Colombia, in praying for Francys and Pedro, house church leaders in Maracay, to continue to lead wisely and lovingly.</p>	<p>7 Ask God to provide opportunities for David and Marta (names changed) to connect at a deep level with local believers and nonbelievers in their Central Asian context as they engage in faith conversations.</p>	<p>8 As Hannah Shultz celebrates her birthday today in Harrisonburg, Va., ask the Lord to bless and encourage her ministry of teaching English and relating to people from all over the world with God’s good news.</p>	<p>9 Lift up VMissions workers as they pray when no spiritual movement seems to be happening, for encouragement to keep persevering in prayer. Ask God to reveal glimpses of his work in those situations.</p>	<p>10 Join Rafael and Solange Tartari, serving in Shkodër, Albania, in praying for openings to share the gospel with those God has put around them. Pray for prepared hearts to receive the good news.</p>	<p>11 As Sarah Schoenhals celebrates her birthday tomorrow, join with her in thanking the Lord for new workers ready to serve among the Isaan in Thailand, where she serves with her husband Mark and two daughters.</p>	<p>12 Lift up Raleigh and Opal (names changed) as they celebrate a shared birthday today in North Africa. Ask God to bless and encourage them, and enhance their vision and ministry to reach a largely unreached people group.</p>
<p>13 Pray for the Southeast Asia Area Retreat beginning today (through April 17). Anabaptist expat mission workers from many different organizations are gathering together for fellowship and refreshment.</p>	<p>14 Pray for the Bambara people, most of whom live in Mali, West Africa, and overwhelmingly practice Islam. Only one in at least 25 are followers of Jesus.</p>	<p>15 As the college year draws to a close, pray for the students impacted this year by college ministry workers serving in the Shenandoah Valley. Ask God to empower and strengthen their faith for a lifelong journey.</p>	<p>16 As VMissions joins many local organizations for the Great Community Give today, pray for many to enjoy good fellowship and a spirit of generosity at the VMissions open house and cookout over lunch.</p>	<p>17 As the SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest) high school seniors prepare to graduate in the Shenandoah Valley, pray for the program’s continued impact in their lives as they move into whatever is next.</p>	<p>18 As Armando Sanchez celebrates his birthday today, ask God to bless him in this next year as he and his wife Veronica reach neighbors with the gospel and multiply disciples through Iglesia Shalom in Waynesboro, Va.</p>	<p>19 Ask God for favor for Iglesia Cristiana Renuevo and church planter Juan José Lagos as they seek to reach their neighbors and those in need of the gospel in Winston-Salem, N.C.</p>
<p>20 “Why are you looking for the living among the dead? Jesus is risen!” On this Easter, pray that this message will spread and bring hope and salvation to so many who have not yet heard the good news.</p>	<p>21 Pray for the ways that workers David and Rebekka Stutzman and Andrea Hamsher connect with the church and greater community in Mannheim, Germany, and demonstrate abundant life in Jesus.</p>	<p>22 Pray for the growing ministry team in South Asia with more joining in the next year, and for James and Anne (names changed) to lead with wisdom and cooperation as they serve together.</p>	<p>23 Ask God to bring together congregational leaders for special training opportunities that VMissions offers on multiplying disciples, leaders and churches using the Four Fields model. May the training be impactful.</p>	<p>24 Pray for Steve Horst, serving in Bangkok, Thailand, as he travels to Central Asia with other leaders from VMissions to visit the teams forming there.</p>	<p>25 Lift up the VMissions Board Meeting today and tomorrow in Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for a Spirit-led time of gathering and wisdom as the Board makes decisions and guides the direction of VMissions.</p>	<p>26 Pray for Jesus to be known among the roughly 7 million Minangkabau people of western Sumatra, Indonesia. Orthodox followers of Islam, only 1 in 385 are followers of Jesus.</p>
<p>27 Tomorrow evening is the final session of the Perspectives class at Eastside Church in Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for powerful kingdom impact and for some to be called and sent in God’s mission.</p>	<p>28 Pray for SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest) director Ken Wettig as he celebrates his birthday today. Ask the Lord for partners to join the ministry of SLAQ, and for its continued impact on youth.</p>	<p>29 Pray for the Lord’s favor in the interactions of Yacoub Rasul (name changed) with Arabic-speaking people in Harrisonburg, Va. Ask God for good opportunities to share his faith and hope in Jesus.</p>	<p>30 Pray for the European Worker Retreat beginning today (through May 4). Ask God for safety as workers serving across Europe travel to Albania, for refreshment, and for learning and spiritual nourishment.</p>	<p>This month’s prayer calendar is sponsored by:</p> <p><b>The Sam Weaver Family</b></p>		

# Call to Prayer

The Apostle Paul tells us that “the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words” (Romans 8:26, NLT). I wonder if these “groanings” might sometimes be music.

Recently I was driving alone to the airport and decided to sing prayers rather than think or speak them. I was surprised how much more real my praises and petitions felt to me as I expressed them in this way. It was as if the words became alive with new meaning, as if lifting from a journal page and flying to the heavens. The words felt enlivened by the Spirit of God groaning within me, connecting me with the Father God.

Another prayer song came to me as our family was preparing to move to be among our unreached people group. I longed to find hospitality in that new place, for me and for my family. I longed to find neighbors with whom to live life and to whom Jesus could become visible through our witness and our prayers for them.

I was given a picture of many doors: the door of our future house in that town; doors of neighbors being opened to us; a door of heaven opening for our neighbors to enter; a door through which Jesus will come when he returns to earth. And a simple song emerged in the language of our people group.

A couple months ago I stopped by a local farmer’s house to pick up milk, a visit I make weekly. He saw the guitar in the back of my car and asked me to play it for him. In his language, I sang the song which was actually in many ways an answered prayer in his family’s kindness to me over these past years. Now almost every time I go to his house he sings this simple prayer song back to me.

Jesus, you have answered my prayer of doors opened in hospitality in this place. I will keep on singing until all our friends and enemies receive you into their doors and you come again to this earth.

—RALEIGH (name changed) serves in North Africa among an indigenous people group

# Worker Focus



## Worker profile: Mark, Sarah, Heidi, and Hannah Schoenhals

**Service location:** Det Udom, Thailand

**Program:** transForm | **Serving since:** 2009

**Assignment:** We serve with Life Enrichment Church (LEC), a network of house churches in a wide rural area, with the goal of multiplying disciples of Jesus and house churches. We help disciple new believers, train emerging leaders, and advise and help sharpen the vision of existing leaders.

**Biggest challenge:** Managing multiple schedules and a long and diverse list of responsibilities always keeps us on our toes! There are always surprises in ministry. This, in addition to living in a very spontaneous culture, means that we can expect to encounter the unexpected any given day. We frequently need to regroup, rearrange, and make challenging decisions about how to prioritize our time.

**Biggest joy:** Our biggest joy is seeing lives transformed by the Lord Jesus! Sometimes, we see baby steps, other times, massive turn-arounds. In our current term, a particular joy has been to walk alongside a family as they have found freedom from addiction and other forms of bondage. They now have loving family relationships, new priorities, and readily give themselves to mentoring, evangelism, and other forms of ministry. They are increasingly able to lead in the church. It gives us great joy to see people walk into healing and freedom that only Jesus can give.

# Ways to Pray

There are 1.8 billion Muslims in the world and a good majority of them remain unreached by the gospel. During Ramadan, Muslims enter a season of prayer and fasting. This is a great opportunity for the global church to join in prayer that God would open their eyes to his salvation and raise up workers to bring his good news!

## Ways to pray for Muslim people:

- **30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim world**  
Download a prayer guide ([www.pray30days.org](http://www.pray30days.org)) for the Muslim world and start praying for hundreds of Muslim communities. (John 14:13)
- **Church planting movements**  
Pray for movements to faith in Jesus among the Muslim communities, for thousands of them to be baptized and discipled. (Matthew 28:19)
- **The witness of Muslim background believers**  
Pray for the believers in Muslim-majority nations to be enthusiastic witnesses, sharing their faith in Christ with their community in a meaningful way. (1 Peter 3:15)
- **The proximate church to have a heart and ministry of reconciliation**  
Pray for those churches with a near language, culture, or geography to have a burden and intentionally plant churches among their Muslim neighbors. (2 Corinthians 5:18–20)
- **Collaborative efforts in the global church to reach the Muslim world**  
Pray for unity and partnerships, and that the global church can work together to devote greater efforts towards the Muslim world.
- **Scriptures in all languages**  
Pray for written and oral translations of the scriptures to be made available to people groups who do not have a Bible in their language. (1 Corinthians 14:10–11)