


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”</p> <p>John 14:15-18 (NIV)</p>			 <p>This month's prayer calendar is sponsored by:</p> <h2>Everence®</h2> <p>Helping members grow their financial futures with faith and purpose for 80 years.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>Pray for the annual conference meeting of Jamaica Mennonite Church, a VMissions partner, held today and tomorrow. Staff member David Gingerich is attending on behalf of VMissions.</p>	
<p>2</p> <p>Ask God for encouragement for members of Ministry Support Teams (MSTs) as they faithfully partner with workers to support them through prayer, communication, financial coordination, and sometimes field visits.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Ask God for favor in reaching neighbors with the gospel as Iglesia Cristiana Renuevo invites transformation through Christ in Winston-Salem, N.C. Pray for church planter and pastor Juan José Lagos and his leadership.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>As David and Marta (names changed) serve on the Central Asia Launch Team, pray for language acquisition and opportunities to build relationships leading to faith conversations with their neighbors.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>In Mannheim, Germany, David and Rebekka Stutzman are bringing believers and spiritual seekers together to bear witness to God's love in a post-Christian context. Pray for God to bless and encourage this effort.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pray for SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest) and director Ken Wettig as the program transitions to a VMissions ministry this month. Ask God for the provision of finances and long-term ministry partners.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pray for various workshop trainings that VMissions is planning to offer. Many focus on models of discipleship and multiplication. Ask God to bring church teams to the trainings and for impactful practices to result.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Lift up Adam and Elise Sauder (names changed), who are entering a season of ministry support raising in Harrisonburg, Va., as they prepare for long-term service in South Asia.</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Join Joyel Allen, serving in college ministry at Mary Baldwin University, in praying that God will guide students to encounter the love of God, and that many will come to know Jesus as Lord.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pray for Spirit-led impact of the Perspectives class, as students gather each Monday evening at Eastside Church, Harrisonburg, Va., through April 28. Ask God to empower and mobilize all Christians into daily missions.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Pray for a healthy balance of ministry engagement, family time, and spiritual enrichment for the Steve Horst and Bethany Tobin family as they serve in Bangkok, Thailand.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Join Yosiah and Anita Rahma (names changed) in praying for their Muslim friends and neighbors in Southeast Asia and around the world in this month of Ramadan. Pray for dreams, visions, and miracles.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>In the South Asian country where James and Anne (names changed) serve, there has been a lot of violence and political instability. Pray for dialogue and an end to violence, and for justice instead of corruption.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pray for God's wisdom and creativity as God's people produce opportunities for sustainable work and contribute to the health and sustainability of Jesus movements around the world.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Pray for the Hausa people group of West Africa, most of whom live in Nigeria and Niger. A group of nearly 39 million, only 1 in 1,000 are followers of Jesus. Ask God to send workers and local believers to reach them.</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Pray for the discipleship and outreach efforts of VMissions' international church partners: the Italian Mennonite Church, Jamaica Mennonite Church, and the Mennonite Church of Trinidad & Tobago.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Join Rafael and Solange Tartari in praying for the Holy Spirit's work and transformation in the lives of each person they reach out to in Shkodër, Albania, as they make disciples and seek to multiply God's church there.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pray for Priska DiGennaro, Lydia Showalter, and Malakai Wettig, serving as interns with Viva Youth in Bogotá, Colombia. Ask God to deeply impact each one towards lifelong service in God's kingdom.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pray for the ministry of Norma Teles with groups of mothers and girls meeting at the Joshua Center in Lezhë, Albania. Pray for meaningful ways to communicate the gospel, and for their openness to faith.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Lift up college ministry workers Destiny Alston and Alia Muhammad, serving with Every Nation Campus at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va. Pray for students' openness to God's good news.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>As Ruthy Hershey celebrates her birthday tomorrow in Millersville, Pa., lift up her heart for prayer ministry and helping others go deeper. Ask God to provide opportunities to share the gospel and nurture others in faith.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>As Mike Metzler celebrates his birthday today, pray for his church plant, Mosaic of Grace Church, Harrisonburg, Va., to increase in gospel impact and growth this year. Pray for his leadership alongside his wife Risha.</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Pray for Max and Melissa Z. (names changed) as they work and study the language and culture of their new home in Central Asia while raising children. Lift up their Launch Team as they come alongside in support.</p> <p>30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>(24) Michael Santana (name changed) is celebrating his birthday today. As he prepares to serve long-term in South-east Asia, pray for encouragement and clarity as he engages in cross-cultural mission.</p> <p>31</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lift up the recently-appointed worker Aaron Evans (name changed), who will use his skills as a computer programmer to join a team of bi-vocational ministry workers as an intern in Central Asia.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pray that international students going in the program of Immerse International, Millersville, Pa., will be deeply impacted by the gospel message. Lift up worker Michael Hershey as he serves them.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>As Randall Schlabach celebrates his birthday today, lift up Eleftheria, his ministry to men in two Ohio counties seeking recovery from pornography addiction through Christian recovery programs.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Pray for the marketplace ministry of Carl Strite, using his Strite's Donuts business in Harrisonburg, Va., as a means to share the gospel at various events and connect with those far from God.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Pray for Mark and Sarah Schoenhals and several individuals they are working with who are in various stages of moving to the field to serve among the Isaan in northeast Thailand.</p>

Call to Prayer

As believers, all areas of our lives should be impacted by our identity as Christians, and one aspect of that is prayer. A passage about prayer that has been important for David is John 11:41-42, when Jesus visits the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus prayed, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me” (NIV).

This has impressed upon David the importance of prayer not just being for us in private, but that prayer is also for others through public expressions of prayer.

In our Central Asian country, there are opportunities for David to pray in public settings—at the beginning of meetings, for example. The traditions here are that people typically pray at the end of meals, and the oldest person prays. David is often the oldest, so he takes the opportunity to lead in prayer, asking God for blessings on the people we’re with.

David wants to be recognized as a man of God by friends and neighbors. His prayers with people should also reflect this desire of his heart. While David is the one in a professional role, Marta has a role in this by supporting him in prayer, asking the Lord to open doors for relationship in his work setting.

We have often prayed for God to open doors in relationships with neighbors, and asked God to provide opportunities, guiding us in how we relate to them, and the words that we use. We follow many of the same patterns here: asking the Lord to give us wisdom in the relationships we have, negotiating the cultural differences and asking for the right words in these conversations. We want to reflect that, in every area of our lives, we are shaped by spiritual transformation.

We also pray for the gospel to be preached in all nations. It was through prayer that the Lord placed the burden on our hearts to work cross-culturally with this message of good news.

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

Worker Focus

Worker profile: **Joy M.** (name changed)

Service location: Central Asia

Program: tranSend

Serving since: 2023

Assignment: After teaching at an international school, I transitioned to a secular school where I interact more with Central Asian students. I also study the language for 20 hours each week, which includes face-to-face lessons, self-study, and informal conversations with locals for practice. I see my role as integral in the spiritual formation of students with whom I have the privilege of developing relationships, and my desire is to share the good news of Jesus Christ with my students and neighbors.

Biggest challenge: It is certainly a major challenge to juggle the many responsibilities that I have. High schoolers can be quite a handful and teaching them requires patience and much grace. Learning a new language is also both challenging and overwhelming at the same time, as there’s so much to learn in such a short time. The weather here has also posed some health challenges. My first weeks were difficult as my hypertension is often triggered by the dry, warm climate.

Biggest joy: Favor and honor come from the Lord (Psalm 84:11). My coworker and best friend Elaine (name changed) and I have both experienced this as we teach students and interact with those around us. We’ve had opportunities to show love and kindness to students, colleagues, cleaning ladies in our apartment complex, and our retired next-door neighbor, all of which have opened conversations about different aspects of life.

I see how much the Lord loves these people and has made them cross paths with ours. We pray for more spiritual conversations to happen and that our language learning would enable Elaine and I to connect with them more effectively.

Ways to Pray

Pray for Muslims during Ramadan

When the apostle Paul was locked up in Rome, he wrote a letter to Timothy from prison. He does not plead that the saints intercede for his release. Instead, he writes, “The Word of God is not bound!” (2 Tim. 2:9).

There are many stories of Muslims who have been impacted by the Christian scriptures. Many have had a personal encounter with Jesus in their reading of the Bible and trusted Him for salvation. Others are still considering His claims.

The Word of God is not bound to specific geographical locations. It is not bound to a specific format; the Word of God leaps from pages, speaks through mobile phones and audio players, declares itself boldly on social media, is glimpsed in art, and even appears as Jesus himself.

During Ramadan (February 28-March 30), intercede in prayer for the Muslim world, reflecting the heart of God for these people created in the image of God and for whom Jesus died.

Consider the following Scriptures to help prepare your heart for prayer.

- While we were yet sinners, Jesus loved us and died for us (Rom. 5:8). He loves Muslims in the same way, not wanting any to perish (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9).
- Jesus exhorts us to not only love God, but also our neighbour (Matt. 22:37-39). The Samaritan became a neighbor to the wounded man on the Jericho road by going out of his way to care for him. We make neighbors of Muslims by reaching out in prayer to pray blessings on them, their families and communities.
- We love, because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). Ask God to fill you with his love as you pray for this vast, diverse group of people around the world.