

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-19 (NIV)		1 Pray for the Mark and Sarah Schoenhals family, serving in Det Udom, Thailand, as they spend several months on home assignment in the U.S., raising support, connecting with family, and seeking medical care.	2 As Max Z. (name changed) celebrates his birthday today in Central Asia, pray for the Lord to provide spiritual nourishment and strong local relationships for Max and his family as they continue to learn language and culture.	3 Join Carlin and Chass Kreider in praising God for the provision of an apartment in Panama City, Panama, as they prepare to begin serving there with Every Nation this August.	4 Today, an E³ Collective of youth from Eastside Church and Enciende Una Luz departs to serve in Puerto Rico. Ask God for meaningful relationships and impactful encounters to show them a glimpse of life on mission.	5 Pray for workers to share the gospel among the Yadav people, mostly residing in eastern and southern India. This people group of over 47 million are Hindus, with no known evangelical Christian presence.
6 Join Marcello Arrostuto and Marianna Vaglica, serving in Palermo, Italy, in praying for God to guide and help them as they organize a ministry team with mission workers from other agencies.	7 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 multiplies.	8 Pray for lasting impact from the SLAQ (Servant Leader Quest) Summer Faith Adventure last month. Ask God to guide the youth involved into lifelong faith commitment to Jesus and the church.	9 Join Jorge and Ginny Enciso, serving in Bogotá, Colombia, in praying for upcoming transitions in the leadership of their organization, Viva Youth. Pray for the new leaders to thrive and adjust well to their new responsibilities.	10 Pray for the seekers in South Asia who come in contact with the ministry of James and Anne (names changed) through their Christian media outreach page. Praise God that this outreach has borne good fruit.	11 Join Yosiah and Anita Rahma (names changed), serving in Southeast Asia, in praying for the students who graduated from their early education center House of Hope, and for their acceptance as they apply to elementary schools.	12 Lift up the marketplace ministry of Carl Strite, based in Harrisonburg, Virginia, as he travels to various locations to engage those far from God, using his business as a ministry tool.
13 Ask God to prepare Ruth Rivera's new support community as she prepares for service in Thailand—for her teachers, hosts, teammates, church family, and neighbors.	14 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.	15 Pray for the discipleship and outreach efforts of VMMissions' international church partners: the Italian Mennonite Church, Jamaica Mennonite Church, and the Mennonite Church of Trinidad & Tobago.	16 As students are home for summer break, pray for workers at home and around the world who share the good news with young people. Ask God for open hearts and minds as they learn to know and follow Jesus.	17 As Rafael Tartari, serving with his family in Shkodër, Albania, celebrates his birthday today, pray that God will encourage and bless him and his family as they serve and discern their future ministry location.	18 Pray for the children of mission workers who are serving around the world with their parents. Ask God to grant them a deep sense of daily care, grace, and belonging wherever they are.	19 Lift up the Steve Horst and Bethany Tobin family in their life and ministry in Bangkok, Thailand. Pray for opportunities to witness and minister to the Isaan people living in the capital city.
20 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.	21 As Anita Rahma (name changed) celebrates her birthday today in Southeast Asia, pray for God's infusion of encouragement, strength, and protection as she and her family live incarnationally in a slum community.	22 Join Norma Teles, serving in Lezhë, Albania, in praying for the group of mothers she works with to come to know the love and salvation of Jesus and result in the transformation of families and the Roma community.	23 The VMMissions new worker orientation begins today in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Pray for an engaging time of learning and equipping for their work ahead, and for VMMissions staff who will lead these sessions.	24 Lift up Lewis and Ashley Roberts, serving as interns in recovery ministry in Harrisonburg, Va., in prayer as they develop skills in ministry leadership. Ask God to guide them with passion for a recovered life in Jesus.	25 Pray that those part of 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.	26 As Yacoub Rasul (name changed) celebrates his birthday today, pray for continued favor and impact among Arabic-speaking people in the Shenandoah Valley as he models a gospel witness among them.
27 The VMMissions Worker Retreat begins today at Highland Retreat in Bergton, Virginia, and goes through Tuesday. Pray for Spirit-led unity, impactful learning and sharing together, and powerful times of prayer.	28 Lift up workers currently engaged in ministry partnership development. Ask God to provide meaningful connections and to invite the right people to become prayer and financial partners.	29 Pray for the Ese Ejja, a native people group living in Peru and Bolivia. In Peru, only 2 in 5 are Christian, and most also retain their traditional religious practices. Pray for a Holy Spirit-led desire for truth and salvation.	30 As Lili Gingerich celebrates her birthday today, ask God to guide and bless her as she embarks on a gap year mission experience in Mannheim, Germany, serving alongside the Stutzman family and Andrea Hamsher.	31 As Nathan Carr celebrates his birthday today, pray for God to lead and bless the development and vision of Resurrected Ministries, Nathan's organization that seeks to create a recovery house in Harrisonburg, Va.	In memory of Ervin Stutzman <i>A disciple of Christ with a deep commitment to prayer and to the church as witness to the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to transform lives and communities in our global neighborhood.</i> —The board and staff of VMMissions—	

Call to Prayer

We recently had a week of parties in our neighborhood in North Africa.

We celebrated a neighbor girl's birthday in our courtyard, a baby blessing/naming party with a neighbor family we are just getting to know, an end-of-mourning party with our neighbors who lost their father and husband in January, and a goodbye party for a short-term team. This all happened in one week! And I had to miss another party that week and was asked by my friend why I didn't come!

The following week we hosted our regional gathering of workers in our people group. This gathering of about 18 adults and corresponding children has been one of our greatest gratefuls over the years. We truly stand with giants who love and encourage each other along the way.

The longer we live there, when we come back to the U.S. for home assignment, the more this becomes a blurring of the lines between home and home.

We pass off keys, say goodbyes, ask neighbors to water plants, plan to miss events, make plans for last visits, all while planning reunion meals, places to stay, events to attend, and hugs to give on the U.S. side.

We live as strangers and homeless all while being overwhelmed by the many homes we have! Isn't that the Kingdom of God? The now here and the not yet.

We look with anticipation and prayer for what God has for us in this season, for these months in Virginia and elsewhere, and what the Lord is preparing for us when we return. Please join us in praying for our dear neighbors and friends. We pray for Jesus be known among them, to be their Lord. We pray for many open hearts to seek and knock at the door that leads to life.

—**RALEIGH & OPAL** (names changed), serving in North Africa with Rosedale International in partnership with VM Missions.

Worker Focus



Worker profile: **Joyel Allen**

Service location:
Staunton, Virginia

Program:
transForm

Serving since: 2022

Assignment: I serve as a campus missionary to Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, Virginia, through Every Nation Campus. My sending church is Divine Unity Community Church in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

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: My biggest challenges are my schedule and the fact that we're still a fairly new presence on campus. I am the point person for our ministry at Mary Baldwin University, 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. But I know that I have all I need in God.

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

For so many people in the world who remain unreached by the gospel, both near and far, we pray for the harvest. We pray for workers to go, for movements of multiplication to ignite the church where it doesn't yet exist, to express worship and community in faithful and culturally meaningful ways. As the global church, we join in prayer that God would open eyes to his salvation and raise up workers to bring his good news!

Ways to pray for gospel-unreached people:

- **Church planting movements**
Pray for movements to faith in Jesus among unreached communities, for millions to be baptized and discipled. (Matthew 28:19)
- **The witness of local believers**
Pray for the believers among the unreached 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 neighbors. (2 Corinthians 5:18–20)
- **Collaborative efforts in the global church to reach the world**
Pray for unity and partnerships, and that the global church can work together to devote greater efforts towards unreached places and people groups.
- **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)