

2011
October



Daily Prayer Guide

"The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2

Our daily prayer requests can also be found on our web page:

www.mbmission.org

"Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant.

Daniel 9:17

To ensure their safety, we are using the initials of long-term workers serving in restricted access countries. Please pray for their protection. Ask the Lord of the harvest to continue to show them favor as He works through them to transform communities among the least reached.

Thank you for praying!

We believe prayer is the foundation of our ministry and you are a valuable partner in our vision of transforming lives in mission.

This Daily Prayer Guide is available monthly via email or post. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to this publication, please contact Ann Zauner with your email or mailing address.

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October 1

Saturday (1): Global Program Department North America

Al Stobbe writes, "12 missionary candidates are participating full-time in the training this fall and another couple is part-time. Later in October each candidate will discern with staff and others as to where they will serve overseas and with whom they will form a team. This is a critical decision, so pray that God will give clear direction to all involved."

Victor Wiens writes, "We are presented daily with numerous opportunities and requests for capacity building assistance from our global partners. At times it is almost overwhelming. Pray for discernment, wisdom and endurance to make fruitful decisions that will truly honor God and extend His Kingdom."

*"When I said, 'My foot is slipping,' your unfailing love, LORD, supported me."
Psalm 94:18*

October 2-8

Sunday (2): James & Alyssa Wiest Mexico

"Sunday October 2nd we will be having our first baptism as a church! Pray for the 15 people who have expressed interest, that they will stand firm in this decision and be blessed by the community as they are baptized. We will also begin a new small group in an area just outside Campo Real, as we have outgrown our usual meeting place. Pray that people will be excited about this new group and feel like they each have a part in the reproduction of the church. Pray that God will bless and fill Roberto, the Mexican national leader, with wisdom to lead this new group."

"If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen" 1 Peter 4:11

Monday (3): SB Restricted

S has arrived in her new host country! She writes, "I made it! Praise God for providing for all of our needs and for preparing us. Please pray for our team as we adjust to our new surroundings, a new culture, a new language, and a new way of doing life. Pray that we adjust well and see our new home and new friends with our Father's eyes, responding with His love. Please also pray that our remaining teammates will arrive soon and that all the pieces will fall into place so we can begin this journey together. Pray that our Father sustains us during this time of transition and that we learn even more to turn to Him in

times of need and blessing. Thank you so much for your prayers!"

"I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name." Isaiah 45:2-3

Tuesday (4): Sandra Fender Thailand

Sandra is spending eight weeks on a road trip visiting and sharing with churches and ministry partners in the Midwest. She writes, "Please pray for safe travel & good weather as we move into the autumn season. By the end of my time I will bump into the winter season. Please pray that as I share, I am listening, hearing and being led by the Holy Spirit. Pray that God will be glorified, that the North American churches will be blessed and that many will respond to take action and join God in what He is doing around the world."

*"Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet."
Proverbs 3:23-24*

Wednesday (5): Edd & Ingrid Russell Thailand

"We are thankful for progress in speaking, reading and writing Thai. Language study has been very intense and at times overwhelming so we began a 4-week break from the classroom starting Sept 17th. We are looking forward to attending a conference and then going on to meet with the team in Northern Thailand. We will be there for the Youth Camp at the Changed Life Center. Please pray for a time of refreshing for us, good communication as a team, and that lives will be touched and changed by encounters with our living God."

"The LORD replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Exodus 33:14

Thursday (6): SB Restricted

S and the "C4 Team" (based on Colossians 4) have been welcomed by the French Mennonites with whom they have already shared time, meals, and worship. Please pray for language and cultural acquisition and for the housing issue to be sorted out, as it is difficult for foreigners to rent accommodations. S writes "Your prayers sustain me during this time of transition," so please remember her to the Lord.

"Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you." Jeremiah 32:17

Friday (7): M & R Restricted

"Recently, I got into a very interesting conversation with our two language helpers who were wondering what will happen at the end of the world. As we each described our beliefs as to what will happen after death, I felt the

hopelessness as they described an uncertain eternity where some payment for sins was inevitable. Please pray that this fear may move people into a longing to get out from under it; that it might move them to seek and question their uncertainty. That the Prince of Peace might meet them and lead them away from their fears and into His more than capable hands. In a religion that is founded on fear, pray that they might turn from their fears and find a solid foundation in their Savior."

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Saturday (8): S & N

Restricted

S & N are still raising support but they praise our Father that progress is being made with fundraising and a visa. Please continue to pray that prayer partners and financial partners will join this team so they can go overseas. They are also trying to discern where exactly God wants them to live once they arrive in the host country. To live among the very poor is a strong desire for them, but they need discernment from God.

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17

October 9-15

Sunday (9): Otto & Marjorie Ekk

Portugal

Otto & Marjorie request prayer for their Bible study group and for the personal growth and commitment of those attending. Pray that people will come to the study with open hearts and a deep desire to know Jesus more intimately. Please pray for the Portuguese churches as they struggle with spiritual maturity. Otto & Marjorie write, "Pray that the Lord will give us wisdom to be a witness during this severe financial crisis Portugal finds itself in."

"Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." Ephesians 4:15

Monday (10): Otto & Lidia Funk

Peru

"Please pray that God will give us wisdom to help the children that live in abusive homes. Every Saturday, our local youth work with about 150 children from very poor areas where abuse, hunger and abandonment are big problems. Pray for the new Christians that are committing to follow Jesus, that their families will let them come to our programs and that they will be strong enough to stay away from their old friends."

"Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life." Acts 5:20

Tuesday (11): Rob & Judy Griffioen

Thailand

Rob & Judy are on MINA (Mobilization in North America) until the end of November. Please pray for them as they report to their supporting churches, donors, prayer partners, family, and friends. Pray for time to rest as well. Praise God for the impact the Griffioens are having on street girls and orphans in northern Thailand. Pray that God will keep His loving arms around these young ladies and shelter them from Satan's darts.

"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you." Psalm 5:11

Wednesday (12): DMI (Discipleship Making International) Africa/Mexico

Peter Loewen is taking a group to Malawi, Africa from the 12th to 30th. Frank Martens and Victor Davila are taking a group to Mexico this month for short-term evangelism. Please pray for these two DMI groups, that God will prepare the hearts of those who will be approached with the Gospel, make them receptive to hear from the Lord. We pray for His Kingdom to increase and we thank God that He is still raising up people and finances to allow these groups to go. Pray that God will give health and safety to all leaders and participants.

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7

Thursday (13): C & F

Restricted

"Praise God that we had a great and enriching time in Alsace with our team. We signed an agreement with an organization here in F* that will give us an authorized presence and a community of brothers and sisters to work with. Praise God that our son was able to get into the school that we felt was best for him! Keep praying for our team members S and M as they are still looking for places to live. They have some great leads but nothing is finalized yet."

"Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.

Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy. Psalm 197:21-22

Friday (14): Pk & C

Restricted

Praise God that He has made it possible for Pk & C to return to this country on a permanent basis. So much work needs to be done and since they already know the language, the transition is so much easier. Pray for hearts to be open to receive Jesus. Pray for the church leaders as they often suffer persecution for their faith. Ask that even in their time of oppression, Jesus will be lifted up and revealed. Pray for the persecuted church!

"They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you,

keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry." 2 Timothy 4:4-5

Saturday (15): S & B

Restricted

"For devout Muslims during the recent season of Ramadan, the biggest issue is thirst. We get parched in the 15 minutes just walking our children to school. We can't imagine going a whole day without drinking water. Pray that the ritual cleansing of their external body will speak to them of the life giving water for their internal spirit. Pray that people will be dissatisfied with the status quo, look for change, and become thirsty for the abundant life that only Jesus can give."

"The poor and needy search for water, but there is none; their tongues are parched with thirst. But I the LORD will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. Isaiah 41: 17-18

October 16-22

Sunday (16): Jim & Marilou Nightingale

Brazil

We thank God that Jim & Marilou have finally found a house to live in! It has been a very difficult summer for them but God has seen them through it all. The camp that they were supervising and living at is being sold for security reasons and another camp at a different location is being researched. Pray that God will go before them and make all things clear to the Brazilian Camp Council. Pray that their stress level will decrease and that Marilou's resulting health issues will disappear.

"You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety. Job 11:18

Monday (17): Andy & Carmen Owen

Thailand

"Pray for Andy as he continues to travel to various church planting locations, resourcing leaders through worship seminars, leadership training, and strategic planning. Pray for increased understanding and discernment in Carmen's role as she attends a conference for mission member care facilitators. Join us in praying for the MB missionaries and national leaders as we seek to serve them by bringing care and resources as needed. Pray for our children, Connor, Isaac and Eleanna, to continue to grow in their personal relationships with Jesus."

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25

Tuesday (18): Sandra Plett

Mexico

Sandra is undergoing some medical tests since her health has not been the best of late. Pray for her health issues to be successfully diagnosed and treated. During this time, Sandra has delegated the youth group leadership duties to a team of three youth. Please pray for them as they take on leadership roles. Please pray that the TREK team that is coming in early November will be able to reach many of the Mexican young people for the Lord. Ask the Lord for softened hearts.

"But if.....you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul." Deuteronomy 4:29

Wednesday (19): BB

Restricted

Praise God that BB is making great contacts and meeting people that are very open to hearing the Gospel. He is seeing God answer very pointed prayers and people are truly amazed! BB asks for wisdom in discerning what to give his time to. With so many great opportunities in his host country it is difficult for him to know what to agree to. He has recently started language study and needs a clear and quick mind. Please pray for God's help.

"Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." Habakkuk 1:5

Thursday (20): Dave & Louise Sinclair-Peters

Thailand

"We praise God for Bethel, Hope, Lighthouse and Bo Thong churches. Thank God for the faithful teaching and mentoring of Pastor Naat and Pastor Isaiah, and for Bank and Ching, our new Thai church planters at the Hope Centre. Pray that God will pour out His Spirit of joy on them and on our team as we sow many seeds of faith in Chachoensao. We also thank God for the Burmese interns who have just finished Bible school. We praise Him for their zealous faith and intimate love for Jesus. We ask that God will give them boldness in evangelism, the favor of God in their leadership, and protection from the evil one."

"Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge." Psalm 62:8

Friday (21): K & W

Restricted

"Please pray for our children as they adjust to their new schools. Pray that they will find good friends that build them up and vice-versa. Pray for us as we continue to study language; that we will find the right courses to take for our levels and learning styles, and for language helpers to practice with. Pray for our new city of residence; that we will form lasting friendships and be salt and light in our community. Praise God for His faithful provision of all of our needs."

"I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me." Psalm 13:6

Saturday (22): Blaine & Michelle Warner Burkina Faso

The Warner's are on MINA (Mobilization in N.A.) and ask that you would help them pray for safe travel as they connect with supporters, churches, and family. Pray that they will be able to share clearly the wonderful things the Lord is doing in Burkina Faso. The church there is growing and we praise God together with them that reading the Bible in their own language has made such an impact in that country. Pray that Blaine & Michelle will also find time to rest before returning to Burkina Faso.

"Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder." Zephaniah 3:9

October 23-29

Sunday (23): John & Evelyn Wiens Ukraine

"Please help us pray for a bigger meeting room for New Hope Church. God continues to bless us with new people - some seekers, some new believers, some wanting a church in and through which they can freely minister the grace of God. There is much legalism in the Orthodox Church and this has carried over into the Evangelical churches as well. Pray for us as we study through the Book of Galatians this fall. We want to celebrate the freedom and joy of the grace of God through Jesus Christ. Thanks for your prayers on behalf of the Gospel."

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1

Monday (24): S & N Restricted

"We are hoping to mobilize this month to our host country. We would love prayer for safe travels and smooth transition into our host country. We are hoping to live in a home of a national for the first month, so please pray that a home will open up for us and that we will be able to connect with the family on a deep spiritual level." Please pray that all the plans made will line up with what the Father requires to make this a smooth transition for our team.

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."

Psalm 20:4

Tuesday (25): S & L Restricted

The last time you read about L it was in relation to her seminar for Abused Women in August. We praise God together with the team that 154 women attended along with 30 children for whom there was also a program! Many women went away transformed by a new relationship with Jesus and a new understanding of their worth in God's eyes. They made a new commitment to love their husbands just as they are. Not surprisingly, many husbands saw

the difference in their wives and, consequently, changed as well. God is good! Thank you for your prayers. Please keep praying for these relationships.

"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18

Wednesday (26): Member Care Volunteers Worldwide

Please continue to pray for these 3 couples that are volunteering their time and resources to minister to our missionaries. John & Isabelle Balzer, Frank & Esther Martens and Ron & Betty Russell visit our workers overseas to give them encouragement and support. Praise God that these folks have answered the call to attend to the needs of those who have gone to unfamiliar and sometimes difficult countries to share Jesus. We are all part of the same team!

"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Ephesians 4:16

Thursday (27): Motohiro & Mariya Hamana Thailand

The Hamana's are still studying Thai and ask for prayer for pronouncing the correct sounds and making proper sentence structure. They are preparing for the end of the 2nd year language check. Please pray for good relationships with church members and neighbors, that Moto & Mariya will have a positive impact on the people they meet. Pray too for at least a 1-year visa/work permit extension. Pray for safety on the roads, and for physical, spiritual, and emotional health for both of them.

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Hebrews 4:16

Friday (28): Stacy Kuhns Peru

"After months of discernment, we have finally come to a decision regarding my long-term assignment! I will be joining a team that is forming to minister in Northern Peru! Many different signs have led to this conclusion, and I am so excited to experience first-hand what God is doing in Northern Peru. Our team will be going there together as a church resource team to minister alongside the already existing MB churches. Please pray for Team Peru as we work together and that God will be glorified through the vision and mission for Northern Peru."

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Psalm 133:1

Saturday (29): Baudouin & Marie Nsulunka South Africa

Please pray for a family in the Durban church who recently lost the mother and left a 4 week old baby. Pray that the church will surround this family and give the support needed. Pray for God to supply financial, spiritual, and emotional needs. The Nsulunka's praise God that the Durban MB Church is growing.

Pray that they will continue to be light and life in the community. They also request prayer for their children, that God will protect them as they go out into the world.

"Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield." Psalm 5:12

October 30-31

Sunday (30): Cynthia Friesen

Thailand

"We have moved our church service from Saturday evenings to Sunday afternoons at 4:00. We are finding the time frame of the service lends itself to opportunities of connecting with neighbors before and after the service. Please pray for these connections, that we might see many of these neighbors come to know the Lord. Pray for me as I feel God is leading me to start some new ministries among the youth and college students. Pray for creativity and open doors. My dream is to see young people rise up to be evangelists and leaders and active in the church."

"I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, LORD, as you know. I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help. I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness from the great assembly. Psalm 40:9-10

Monday (31): J & F

Restricted

J & F are on MINA in Canada (Mobilization in North America) until December. Please continue to pray for them as they minister to their supporters and various churches. Praise God that they did have some relaxing camp time in the summer, which was enjoyed by all...especially their 2 sons! In their host country, their teammates discovered a Christian in a monastery! He claims to be the only Christian monk in that place and was desperate to speak to fellow Christians. J & F write, "He poured out his heart to the team - his heart for his people to come to know Jesus, and his fears over his present situation. They encouraged him from God's word and all laid hands on him and prayed for him, and he was strengthened. Please pray for him."

"Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the LORD." Psalm 27:6

Country Spotlight: Germany

Germany has a rich history of Christianity. But today, many people in Germany do not have a relationship with Jesus. Some people refer to this era in German history as the "post-Christian era." In the midst of this reality however, Christian workers have found openness from many people to hear the message of the gospel.



Please pray:

- That many people will enter into relationship with the Lord.
- That this nation will be transformed by the love, grace and power of the living Jesus.
- For Andre & Olga Pritzkau and Ben & Melissa Froese, who serve in the MB church plant in Berlin.
- For the leadership of the AMBD and BTG Conferences (German MB Conferences) as they seek to engage in God's mission in that nation and around the globe.
- For Gary & Ellie Loewen as they move towards long-term ministry in Germany.
- for Johann Matthies as he provides leadership and vision for MB Mission's engagement throughout Europe.

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