

2011
September



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

"And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God."

Romans 8:27

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.

email: annz@mbmission.org

phone: 604.859.6267

Thursday (1): D & S

Restricted

"We are thankful for the encouragement of God's people and we continue to be amazed at all that God is doing on our team and in our lives personally. We are very close to mobilization and hope to leave this month, God willing. This journey has been one of learning to trust in God as Provider and Shepherd. Please pray that God will supply our remaining monthly and one-time support needs, which are required before we can go. Pray also that our visa applications will go smoothly."

"Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you." Psalm 9:10

Friday (2): Jose & Esperanza Prada

Peru/Colombia

Jose & Esperanza are permanently returning to Colombia later this month to minister in the Colombian MB Church. Pray that they will finish well in Peru and that God will direct them to new ministries in Colombia. Please pray for the remaining pastoral team in Lima: Jacqueline Hidalgo, Ronald Chauca, Silvia Zamora, and Carlos Arrue. Pray for wisdom, good decision-making, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to strengthen the church. Pray also for God's leading in a possible building project there.

"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.'" Lamentations 3:22-24

Wednesday (3): R & M

Restricted

"We enjoyed having an ACTION team here for most of July and part of August. Pray that God will guard and nurture the "seeds" planted in the people contacted and in the team. Pray for the Golden Key Club as we prepare to start up for another season in September; for the children, their families, club finances, the facilities and our staff. Pray for the 5 "leader" girls who were baptized and are taking on leadership roles at the club. Please continue to pray for land to build on and that God will reveal Himself in this process. Pray for our furlough time in Canada; for our time with family, for our times sharing our story and visions, and that we will see God's Spirit leading us and touching people's lives. Pray that God will watch over the projects and the people here in our absence."

"Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your covenant is trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant(s)." 2 Samuel 7:28

Sunday (4): Jennifer Schmidt

Mexico

Please pray for Jennifer as she begins a new fall season of training, mentoring, teaching, and discipling. She had the opportunity to visit Canada for a couple of weeks in the summer and is now ready to take on the task ahead. Please pray for unity in her team and that their ministry will have a positive impact on the youth they are working with. Pray that the youth will understand the true message of Jesus Christ. May God's Kingdom multiply mightily!

"We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life." 1 John 5:20

Monday (5): Barbara Block

India

"Kodaikanal International School has started a new school year very well, with 150 new students registering. New staff are also adjusting, however, our choir/voice/theory teacher left abruptly after discovering that we meant it when we said we were a Christian school, leaving us stranded." Please pray for a qualified Christian music teacher to be led to take over this work. Pray that God will guide Barb in her new role as High School Coordinator and in her role on the Board of Bethania Home for Children. Bethania Home has taken in several new children, most of whom are either orphans, or from single parent homes, where the remaining parent has abandoned them or is unable to care for them due to health or financial issues. Barb writes, "Pray especially for Sudha and her brother and sister, all who struggle because of the poor care they received at home. We continue to need more staff to assist in the home but its isolated setting makes it a challenge to find permanent staff."

"Know that the LORD has set apart his faithful servant for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him." Psalm 4:3

Tuesday (6): Melvin & Gurdrun Warkentin

Paraguay

"In September, the Indian Bible Institute (IBI) will offer a week-long pastor's seminar. This is an opportunity for them to receive new spiritual impulses and direction for their churches. Pray that God's Spirit will speak through us and strengthen the spiritual walk of the indigenous churches. Pray for Aparicio, Enrique and Felix, 3 Enlhet pastors that produce a weekly radio program known as the Gospel Hour. Pray that their programs will spark interest in the Word of God, and that the listeners will be drawn into a close walk with Christ. This radio ministry has great potential among scattered indigenous peoples where oral communication is most effective." Pray for Melvin as he seeks to encourage these pastors and give them direction.

"I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another." Romans 15:14

Wednesday (7): Reg & Faa Wall

Canada/Thailand

"We are excited about what God has in store for us as we prepare to head back to Thailand as long-term missionaries. We know God is and will continue to do amazing things for His Kingdom. Please pray for this time of raising support. Pray that many will catch the vision and join us to see many come to know the Creator of Heaven and Earth. We praise God for the gift of life and for the life that is growing inside of Faa (due Sept 22nd). Our prayer is that we can be the best parents to this gift God has entrusted us with and that this little one will grow to be a mighty witness for the Gospel!"

"Because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace." Luke 1:78-79

Thursday (8): Andre & Olga Pritzkau

Germany

Andre & Olga are on Sabbatical until October. Please pray that they will find rest, rejuvenation, and good family time during this period. Pray that the Berlin church will continue to be a beacon of light in their neighborhood and beyond. We praise God with them for the interest the community has shown in this new church and that many new people have come to the church to see what's it's all about. May God reach their hearts so they can see that Jesus is the way!

"He (Jesus) said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." Mark 6:31b

Friday (9): Phil & Carol Bergen

Burkina Faso

"Please pray for the new believers as they learn to study and teach the Bible. Pray also for the difficulties they face within their families: spouses who haven't accepted Christ, difficult relationships between wives in polygamous families, and relatives who squander limited resources resulting in food shortages. Pray for us as we prepare to take the Bible message into new villages. By next January, we hope to have a team in place that can do the job--that includes some of these new believers that you are praying for! With God anything is possible."

"Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood" Acts 20:28

Saturday (10): Bob & Chris Davis

Thailand

Pray for the new Northern Thailand Team; that God will give us unity and vision as we serve with the Khmu people group. Please also pray for the Changed Life Training Center and the Khmu Student Center; that God will be with us as we

seek to train others to serve God with all their gifts and abilities. Bob is doing more teaching in the churches on Sundays, and Chris is busy teaching English to the 40 teens at the Center and teaching kids in the churches on Sundays. Our goal is to train others, so we are excited when we hear that someone wants to work alongside us and learn from us. Pray with us that God will raise up more people with an interest in teaching others."

"If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed." 1 Timothy 4:6

Sunday (11): Krista DeBoer

Burkina Faso

Krista is now in Montpellier, France for language school. She will be there for seven months, living with a host family during that time so she can practice her French. After she completes language school, she will be going to Burkina Faso but is still in need of \$300 per month of support plus \$3000 for language school. Please pray for these financial needs and for her French Visa to come through in time. God is faithful.

"He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he." Deuteronomy 32:4

Monday (12): Wendy Eros

Japan

Wendy just finished a trip with several of her students to Canada, where they traveled through BC and Alberta. Please pray that the students will have felt a lasting Christian impact as they stayed in Christian homes and went to Christian church services. Pray that Wendy's ministry will bear much fruit in a country with so many lost, disillusioned, and hurting people.

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

Tuesday (13): Jon & Bonnie Esau

Canada/Thailand

"Pray for continued discernment for the Thailand Leadership team as they decide which language school we'll attend and what team we'll join after language training. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to move powerfully in the hearts of the Thai people and that more will come to know him personally." Please also pray for the support raising process to find completion; that all the funds needed will arrive and many prayer warriors will join the Esau team. Their chosen verses are:

"Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessing." 1 Corinthians 9:19, 23

Wednesday (14): Lowell & Melissa Ens USA/Peru

"We are in the midst of active fundraising and trusting that God will continue to build our team of financial partners in this journey. We have had many great church visits with more planned for the weeks to come. Please pray that our message is clear, that we share with confidence, and that we are effective in this step of the adventure. We desire for many to connect with the ministry and Christian brothers and sisters in Peru. Pray also for God to make clear His timeline regarding our departure for Peru – we hope it will be soon!"

"But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."

Romans 8:25

Thursday (15): T & R Canada/Restricted

T & R have been invited to begin the formation of a new church planting team to serve in an extremely sensitive country. They write, "This month, a new group of potential long-term workers will begin the training phase. We will take part in some of the team-building aspects to get to know our potential teammates and the team formation will likely take place later in the fall."

Please pray that these plans will become clearer as the fall progresses and that the team God has chosen will form as He intends. Pray that T & R will make the most of their time during this very busy period.

"Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun."

Psalms 37:5-6

Friday (16): Ben & Melissa Froese Germany

Please pray that Ben and Melissa will continue to build solid relationships among the youth and the neighborhood families. They write, "Pray that God will continue to make our church an inviting presence and light in this neighborhood. Please pray for greater fluency and understanding in the language as we continue to learn German."

"To the faithful you show yourself faithful, to the blameless you show yourself blameless." Psalm 18:25

Saturday (17): Einer & Girsela Zuluaga Panama

Einer & Girsela thank God for the renovated house they are now living in. Praise God for the team from Forest Grove Church in Saskatoon who have been so generous with their time and finances in completing this project. Please pray that the women Girsela is discipling will understand the message and take the Word back to other indigenous women. Pray that these disciples will have a strong faith and be in good standing with the communities they serve.

"As it is written: 'They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.' Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:9-11

Sunday (18): Joan & Trever Godard Mexico

From September to December, the Godards' ministry time will focus on strengthening local pastors and leaders. Trever spends many hours in discipleship and training of leaders. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will manifest His fruit in Trever's life and give him wisdom in leading people to know God intimately and walk in all His ways. Joan is the Member Care Facilitator for MB Mission workers in Latin America, so these fall months are given to shepherding and resourcing missionaries, as well as discipling some of the women in local church leadership. Please pray that Joan will have God's discernment, wisdom and love in her care for people.

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better."

Ephesians 1:17

Monday (19): Doris Goertz Japan

Doris writes, "Please pray that the students in my English classes will open their hearts to Jesus. Several have shown interest in learning more about Christianity." Pray that her students will be open to having Bible studies with Doris and that the words she speaks will come straight from the heart of God.

"I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart." Psalm 40:8

Tuesday (20): Greg & Becky Ouellette Thailand

"God's kingdom is clearly advancing in the life of "Day". We receive great joy in hearing her prayers, in watching her enter into worship, and in seeing God's love in action through her. Her heart of compassion for others compels her to act sacrificially on others' behalf. May God's kingdom continue to advance in Day's life, in the life of her family, and in the lives of her neighbors and friends. These are the beginnings of our church planting experiences in Phuket, as God changes people from the inside out, one life at a time."

"Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing." Isaiah 40:26

Wednesday (21): Gary & Ellie Loewen Canada/Germany

"We are grateful for Gary's job, life's challenges, summer's goodness and fun with family and friends. We continue to pray for new partners to join our support network. Also please pray for our upcoming 2 week visit to Germany in October; that God will go ahead of us and guide our time of listening, discerning, relationship building and visioning. We want to be faithful to that which we are called."

"I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them." Isaiah 42:16

Thursday (22): Liana Penner Peru

Please pray for the Ladies' group starting the 4th study book in a series of 6 books of the Life of Jesus. Two ladies want to start small groups in their homes. Pray for wisdom and perseverance for them. May more come to a personal relationship with Christ. Pray also for wisdom and strength for Pastor George and Adriana as they give leadership to the Trujillo church and the Peruvian MB Conference.

"Now, you women, hear the word of the LORD; open your ears to the words of his mouth." Jeremiah 9:20 *"Teach them His decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave. Exodus 18:20*

Friday (23): Alfredo & Sandra Beltran Mexico

The Beltrams are currently pastoring a new church plant near Guadalajara. Please pray that they will continue to be a light in that neighborhood and that many will come to hear more about what the church is doing and how God can change lives. Pray that the Holy Spirit will be present in every encounter and that the message will be clearly understood.

"I will teach you about the power of God; the ways of the Almighty I will not conceal." Job 27:11

Saturday (24): J & M Paraguay/Restricted

"We think we are at the last stage of mobilization into our host country. Since we returned to Paraguay from training in Canada, we have had the privilege of sharing our testimony and telling about our ministry in more than twenty places. It has been a blessing to see how God is moving His church, showing His heart to reach people with His Word and love. We are thankful for everyone that God has called to be part of this project. As a family, we need the Lord to continue to lead us in the visa process, raise up more supporters and show us how best to prepare for our departure." Their chosen verse is:

"Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD. They rejoice in your name all day long; they celebrate your righteousness." Psalm 89:15-16

Sunday (25): Ricky & Karen Sanchez Thailand

Please pray for the Sanchez's 4 daughters who have changed schools after 10 years. Pray that they will transition well. "Praise God for 3 women from Full Sail Ministries coming to minister to the women in our Ang Sila and Life Center Churches! Pray for many non-Christians to come and find Jesus! Also, pray for an 11 year old girl in our church, 'Cookie', who was recently raped by an old man in the village. Pray that our church will be courageous and continue to help this poor family get justice." There is a new pastor couple at Ang Sila Church, which is what you've all been praying for. Praise God for Buay and Mai/Jessica! Pray that they will strengthen the church in the face of persecution for standing up to protect the community children.

"But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless." Psalm 10:14

Monday (26): Russ & Marjorie Speiser France

From September 26-30th there is a large week long production for the Heart to Heart women's series with the goal of reaching North African women. Please pray that many will attend and find everlasting life in our Lord and Savior. There was recently a 2 ½ week evangelistic music tour in Poland, during which several people made decisions and many expressed interest in the Gospel. Please pray for mentors to shepherd these new believers into deeper relationship with Jesus.

"May the LORD, the God who gives breath to all living things, appoint someone over this community to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the Lord's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd." Numbers 27:16-17

Tuesday (27): Richard & Hazel Funk Austria

"We arrived back in Austria in July and praise God for a very blessed MINA time (Mobilization in North America). Thank you for your prayers as we seek to help our Austrian leaders in restructuring and finding leadership for our Austrian MB Conference. Several of our churches are searching for part-time and full-time workers. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in that process." Pray that Richard and Hazel will receive wisdom from God as they mentor the Austrian leaders as well as other MB missionaries in Europe.

"He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning." Daniel 2:21

Wednesday (28): Robert & Anne Thiessen Mexico

Please pray for Robert & Anne as they return to their work in South Mexico among the Mixteco people group after some “down-time” this summer. Pray that there will continue to be openness within this people group as they reach into secluded mountain villages preaching Christ crucified. Pray for the Thiessen family, that they will stay unified in their call to missions, and that their love for each other and the Mixteco people will grow daily.

“May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.” 1 Thessalonians 3:12

Thursday (29): D & M Restricted

During this time, D, M and the rest of their team are researching cities, one of which will be their new home. Although language studies will continue, they are now ready to relocate to a permanent location. Please pray that the children’s schooling needs will be met at their new location and that adequate housing will be found. Pray for open hearts in this country where Christianity is not accepted easily and conversion can be very dangerous. God’s Spirit is greater than anything they will encounter, so pray for God to win the battle for the lost souls in this disillusioned country.

“God’s voice thunders in marvelous ways; He does great things beyond our understanding.” Job 37:5

Friday (30): Fall TREK

The fall TREK program is a 10-month mission experience which involves two months of training before teams go overseas to serve alongside a church planting team. On September 27th, team locations and composition were discerned. This upcoming week, TREK teaching will focus on the church and on team unity. Pray for each team; that God would give them grace and compassion for each other’s shortcomings, common purpose and vision, and that they would have a protective spirit of one another.

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42



Country Spotlight: Portugal

Portugal was ruled by a dictatorship for nearly 50 years in the 20th century. Democracy was restored in 1974. Since then, living standards have slowly improved, although the current economic crisis in that nation has pushed unemployment rates to more than 10%. Religious freedom was also gained in 1974, but although there is high religious affiliation, this freedom does not always translate into genuine faith. However, growth in the church is happening. Over the past 25 years the number of Christians has increased from around 55,000 to 300,000 (approximately 3% of the total population). MB Mission workers serve several church plants in partnership with the Association of Mennonite Brethren in Portugal.

Please pray:

- For the truth about Jesus to be made known by wise Christian leaders of all confessions.
- That Portuguese believers will have a transformational impact on their neighborhoods and their nation
- That the church will raise up and send out missionaries around the world
- For Otto and Marjorie Ekk, as they provide resourcing and leadership to several church plants in the Lisbon area

Call the office in your area: 1.888.866.6267 (Regional Office)
1.866.964.7627 (International Office)
www.mbmission.org