

Daily Prayer Guide



**Ask of me,
and I will make the nations your inheritance,
the ends of the earth your possession.**

Psalm 2:8

January 2008

☺ Praise Items

① Prayer Requests

Our daily prayer requests can be found on our
MBMS International web page: www.mbmsi.org

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.

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!'"

And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

Luke 18: 1-8

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January 1-5

Tuesday [1]: Russ & Marj Speiser

France

Last month, violent protests broke out in our village in response to the death of two North African youth. Though we were away at the time and unharmed, the statistics were alarming: 64 police or security officials injured, 60 cars set ablaze, several buildings, including the police station, burned.

- ☺ Please pray for the pastors in our area as we are seeking to respond to this tragedy in a way that promotes peace and reconciliation. Pray also for wisdom and discernment for the government and security forces. Pray for comfort for the families of the two boys who were killed, and that God would use people in their lives to draw them closer to Him. Pray for the (small) evangelical community in the area, that we would find a way to speak to people of the hope that is in us, and why ultimately we are not threatened or made insecure by these events. *"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland."* Isaiah 43:19

Wednesday [2]: Jim & Francine

RESTRICTED

- ☺ The last few years have held many crises for our house helper and her family. She has shed many tears in our kitchen talking about them. The special part has been to see her faith in Jesus growing through it and to stand with her. Two days ago she expressed to me how thankful she is for Jesus. "Without Him, I have no other hope." Again and again she kept saying the words, "thank you Jesus, thank you Jesus."
- ☺ Our good friend left for America to get married. I had been studying the Bible with her for over a year and felt she was very close to salvation. She is dear to our hearts and even more we long for her to not just believe the words of Jesus but to have a personal relationship with Him. Pray for her as she starts a life in the US that the LORD will become her true love and He will put people in her life to point her to Jesus. *"God is building his church and the gates of hell will not overcome it."* Matthew 16:18

Thursday [3]: Jason & Traci Johnston

Thailand

Jason & Traci, and their two children, Riley and Krina, are in Thailand as teachers for the [Operation Second Wave](#) church planting team until April '08.

- ☺ We are in real need of prayer right now. The spiritual realm is huge in Thailand and right now we feel under attack. It started with a small accident with a motorcycle. It wasn't a serious accident, but now Patrick, the husband of the lady in the accident, is unreasonably enraged and threatening our family. Please pray for Patrick and that this situation would resolve well. Pray that I am confident in the Lord and that the Lord's name would be honored. *"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

Friday [4]: John N. & Mary Klassen

Germany

- ☺ *John N. & Mary Klassen serve by teaching in a Bible Seminary in Bonn and ministering in churches in the surrounding areas.* Thank you for remembering us with your prayers. We recently finished eight Bible Days in a MB Church in Halle (West of Bielefeld/ Hannover). We studied with some 100 young and adult people the Letter of Paul to the Galatians. It was refreshing for Mary and me to realize anew, "We who are sinners ... know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, therefore we have believed in Jesus Christ ... faith that is working through love" (2:16. 5:6).

Saturday [5]: Greg & Becky Ouellette

Thailand

- ☺ We were very encouraged and challenged by a conversation with the kids around the dinner table the other night. What goals do we have for the coming months? Caleb: "To see a Thai person follow Jesus through our family." Emma: "To pray for our neighbours." Luke: "To tell Thai people about Jesus." Our kids have a pretty clear picture of what God has called us to! We are praying together that He would lead us to the people that He wants us to share with, and that we would be obedient to share, and then faithful to walk alongside these people and get them connected to a Thai body of believers. *"I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children."* Matthew 11:25

January 6-12

Sunday [6]: Andrew & Olga Pritzkau

Germany

- ☺ In our last prayer request, we mentioned that the federal office has offered us a building to use for a church in Berlin-Treptow (South-East Berlin). The city really went the extra mile looking for an optional building they could sell directly to us. Just recently they approached us saying they might have **found a building** for us a bit further into East Berlin. **After many prayers**, phone calls and meetings, God spoke in a very clear way to us. Praise God, he has granted unity in the church. We are so blessed to see how God made this happen. We signed the paper in early December. You all have had such a great part in it. Thank you for praying!
- ☺ We also thank God for **his promise**. The size of the building shows us that God has a big group of people in this area and city. We also thank God for our wonderful **TREK team** - 4 young adults from North America who are helping and serving us in our church, on construction, in the public school and in the community for seven months. Your prayer is our victory!! *"For nothing is impossible with God."* Luke 1:37

Monday [7]: Kevin & Wendy

RESTRICTED

- ☺ Thank you for praying for us during our adjustment to life in Canada for this season. We know our Lord is faithfully looking after each of us. We needed this time after living in the midst of such constant spiritual battle for four years. We ask for prayer for spiritual renewal in all five of us.

- ① Please pray for renewed intimacy as well. This is truly our desire. Please pray that we will be tuned in to hear His voice and hear and understand His leading for our next chapter. It is amazing to have extended times for quiet communion with him – and He is bringing refreshment! Pray that we would not be distracted from pursuing Him above all.
- ① We often think of North Africa and our friends there. Please keep praying for this region and for these people who desperately need Jesus. Our friends and colleagues from MBMSI, Samir & Lewiza, recently visited small groups of believers in that country and were very encouraged by our brothers and sisters faith despite the challenges they face. *“I spread out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.” Psalm 143:6*

Tuesday [8]: Robert & Anne Thiessen **Mexico**

- ① Please pray for the people in our church planting team and please join us in praying for our church members who are starting groups in their homes. *Gisella* holds a Bible study in her home with her extended family. Strong Catholics, they struggle through the real meaning of Scripture. Another member, *Patty*, is starting a church in her home town just outside the city. Please pray for them and for our relationship with them. We again invite you to pray for God to add to His church. *“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.” 2 Corinthians 2:14*

Wednesday [9]: Richard & Hazel Funk **Austria**

- ☺ Praise the Lord for the Vienna Mennonite Church as it held its first baptism in its own facilities. The day was very dramatic as one person strongly opposed the event and urged people to vacate the building. Yet the testimonies gave witness to the transforming power of the gospel.
- ① Please keep remembering the members of the Salzburg church in your prayers. The church camp this fall served as a catalyst in reuniting the majority of the membership. They moved from fears of closing, to processing hurts, to hopes for a new future.
- ① Please remember us in your prayers as we serve in MINA (Ministry in North America). Our schedule is really busy with travel and speaking engagements. Praise the Lord with us as our pledged support has been growing! This gives us new hope as we come to share stories of “God things” happening in Europe. *“How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!” Psalm 133:1*

Thursday [10]: Dave & Louise Sinclair-Peters **Thailand**

- ☺ Praise the Lord with us for the three cell churches that are growing in Chachoernsao Province! We are praying that many more people put their faith in Christ through these churches and that those who have found Christ would grow in their walk through Bible studies. (continued . . .)

- ☺ Praise the Lord for Sunwest Church in Calgary, AB for their donation of a metal playground. We were able to donate it to a very poor school and make a very big impression on the staff, kids and families and share Jesus with them – for many of the kids and families, it was the first time for them to hear of Jesus! *“I will tell everyone about your righteousness. All day long I will proclaim your saving power.” Psalm 71:15*

Friday [11]: Mark & Amy **RESTRICTED**

- ☺ Just before Christmas one of our neighbours asked me (Amy) to help her write a Christmas play for her child’s preschool Christmas party. My friend is eager to tell the story, but she’s also honest about her lack of knowledge about it. We sat down on a number of occasions with various children’s Bibles and storybooks and wrote the script together. I was able to help direct a couple of the practices, and I was amazed at how my friend and the other parents interacted over different aspects of the story. It’s exciting how the Christmas season allowed us the opportunity to share our faith and tell the amazing story of the birth of Christ.
- ① One of our new friends here is a doctor who works out of a clinic close to our home. Whenever I (Mark) go to see him, our conversations quickly turn to matters of faith. My friend happens to be a very devout Muslim, and he also believes that Muslims today need to take heed to the teachings of Jesus. We have begun to exchange books with each other, so I’ve been reading more about Islam and the Qu’ran and he’s been reading “A Beautiful Way”, a book about following Jesus that I wrote several years ago with my friend, Dan Baumann. Please join us in praying for him. *“I have revealed and saved and proclaimed— I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses,” declares the LORD, “that I am God.” Isaiah 43:12*

Saturday [12]: Rob & Judy Griffioen **Thailand**

- ☺ We are rejoicing that a new believer, Rapin, was able to share about God’s love with one of our neighbors recently. It was such a “God moment”! Pray also for Ann, the neighbor, who is struggling with a deep fear of evil spirits. Pray that she will realize that only faith in Jesus can cast out all fear! *“Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear.” 1 John 4:18a*

January 13-19

Sunday [13]: TREK Teams **GLOBAL**

- ① Please pray for two of our Fall TREK team members. We recently received news that Fauna Acker’s father has been diagnosed with lymphoma. Fauna is on the Thailand TREK team. We invite you to pray for the Acker family.
- ① Ying Limngen was originally the team leader for the Mexico team but due to visa issues is now serving in Abbotsford instead. We are grateful that God has allowed her to serve alongside us despite the disappointment of not going to Mexico with her team.

- ① Please also join us in praying that men would be raised up for ministry and missions. Also, that the TREK leadership team would remain strongly connected to Jesus and following his leading. *“He replied, ‘If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.” Luke 17:6*

Monday [14]: Baudouin & Marie Nsulunka South Africa

- ① We recently enjoyed celebrating a wedding and some baptisms in our church. Praise the Lord! Join with us in praying for the people that participated in these events. We are praying deeply for their understanding of these events because we have noticed many cases of divorce among us. Most Christians here don't reflect a Biblical lifestyle. Pray that our lives would provide an example to them and that God would bless the Christians in our church. *“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10*

Tuesday [15]: Andrea Restricted

- ① I had hoped to be on my way to the field this month but my finances have not come in yet and so I am reminded that this is a faith journey I am on. It isn't always easy to wait and trust for God to provide; actually waiting is hard work! Please pray that I would keep my eyes on the Lord and remain faithful in this journey. Pray that I would grow in my faith and keep a spiritual perspective on my situation. *“The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.” Psalm 23:1*

Wednesday [16]: Darren & Shahna Restricted

- ☺ Recently, I (Darren) was surprised by God when a frustrating situation with our car turned into a great opportunity to share Jesus. As our mechanic and I were working through a miscommunication, he abruptly said that he would like to have a Bible. This conversation led to the mechanic and a friend coming over to our house. We were able to talk about Jesus and Islam. Pray for them as they think about our conversation and as they seek after Jesus! *“But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” Exodus 9:16*

Thursday [17]: Vic & Marty Wiens Worldwide

- ☺ We have been encouraged by so many expressions of love and support in our visits to churches and with individuals – we are truly blessed to have people like you behind us.
- ☺ We are grateful to God and value the chances we've had to inform and inspire young and old about global mission in general, and our mission story of 25 years in Brazil in particular. We have received some new pledges and are still trusting God for our full support. *“Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.” Psalm 143:8*

Friday [18]: Melvin & Gudrun Warkentin Paraguay

- ① Please join us in praying for Melvin and Gudrun as they teach at the Indian Bible Institute providing a Biblical foundation for lay church workers among tribal groups. This fall, five students completed their studies and are preparing to serve in churches.
- ① Please pray for them as they plan several visits to indigenous churches. These visits give Melvin and Gudrun opportunity to observe their alumni in ministry and to adapt their program to observed needs. One church they visited recently greatly encouraged them. A 2004 graduate is currently serving and they observed good attendance, clearly defined leadership and a warm welcome - the signs of a spiritually alive church. Praise the Lord! *“I guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.” Proverbs 4:11*

Saturday [19]: Ron & Betty Russell Worldwide

- ① Please join us in praying for Ron and Betty as they visit missionaries in their ministry locations to provide Member Care, support the continuation of good ministry habits and healthy team dynamics. The Russells have amazing hearts for people and wellness. Pray that God grants them safety as they travel and wisdom as they minister to our church planting teams. *“Tell the righteous it will be well with them, they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds.” Isaiah 3:10*

January 20-26

Sunday [20]: Vision Trip Burkina Faso

- ① Pray for [Carlin Weinbauer](#) and his team of ministry minded individuals from across North America as they spend time with Phil and Carol Bergen in Burkina Faso. Pray that God would bless this team as they discern future mission opportunities, support the Bergens and celebrate the new church plant in N'Dorola. Pray also for their protection as they travel. *“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

Monday [21]: Sandra Plett Mexico

- ① Please join me in praying for my discipleship relationship with the youth in our church: Sara, Lizeth and Daniela. As well, please pray for two girls, Monica and Yesica, that I will be meeting with.
- ① We are hosting our 2nd HADIME (Making Disciples in Mexico) program and many youth are interested! We also anticipate hosting numerous teams and interns who desire more training and experience in cross-cultural mission work. Please pray that we would have wisdom as we plan programs for these different groups. We trust that God has many valuable things for all of us to learn in this process.
- ① Please continue to pray for us as we continue to focus on our vision to start the [Matthew Training Center](#). As we have taken some more purposeful time to vision, dream, and start making plans we are realizing the immensity of this project, and the need to completely lean on God's faithfulness and provision in

order to see this become a reality. *“If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.” Exodus 33:13*

Tuesday [22]: Reg Wall

Thailand

- ☺ A few months ago I met a Thai Buddhist named Chun who asked if I could teach him English. I was really busy at the time with studies and was already teaching five students. A few months passed and then I met up with Chun again. He said he had started learning English from someone from a local Mormon church. Had I missed my opportunity to share the love of Christ with Chun? A month later I asked Chun how his English lessons were going and he said he wasn't taking the classes anymore because he hadn't really connected to the teacher. So God's divine appointment came back for a second round. I am now teaching Chun once a week. Pray with me that we would connect and that Chun would discover the love of God!! *“Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.” Mark 8:25*

Wednesday [23]: Council of International Anabaptist's Ministry

- ① Please pray for [Randy Friesen](#) and [Ray Harms-Wiebe](#) as they travel to Pittsburgh to attend a three day conference featuring various Anabaptist ministries. Praise God for this group of ministry partners. Pray that God would bless this group with unity in spirit, encourage them through the sessions and provide strategic Kingdom partnerships. *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5,6.*

Thursday [24]: John & Geri Warkentin

Worldwide

- ① Please join us in praying for John and Geri as they travel and resource our global church planting teams with video and other media resources. Pray for protection and creativity as they tell stories of God's faithfulness. *“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*

Phone Keo & Chansone Keovilay

Restricted

- ① Please join us in praying for Phone Keo and Chansone as they serve as resource missionaries and travel regularly to Southeast Asia to train leaders and oversee ministry projects. Pray for safety and strength as they provide vital leadership to ministry among the Khmu people. *“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*

Friday [25]: Blaine & Michelle Warner

Burkina Faso

- ☺ Praise the Lord for the language tutors that I (Michelle) have found. Their English explanations are very helpful. Please keep praying that Blaine would find a language helper to converse with.
- ① France is one of the least evangelized countries in the world. It has a population of about 62 million people but only .006% of the population is evangelical Christian compared to the 77% of the population that is Muslim. Pray with us that God uses us here in France during our time of language study. *“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.” Psalm 8:1*

Saturday [26]: Celebrate Mission Night

Winkler, MB

- ① Winkler MB Church is hosting a Celebrate Mission Night today. Please join us in praying for a special anointing on this service as Randy Friesen reports on the transforming impact of holistic church planting with a focus on the Khmu tribal people. Pray with us that God would bless those in attendance and mobilize people in prayer, call people to go and encourage people to support. [For more information on CMN's, visit our website at www.mbmsi.org/cmn.] *“They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.” Psalm 145: 11-12*

January 27-31

Sunday [27]: Celebrate Mission Night

Winnipeg, MB

- ① We are excited for another Celebrate Mission Night tonight at the Canadian Mennonite University. Pray for the students and professionals who will be in attendance. We are asking God to raise up people to join church planting teams serving around the world and for a generation of people committed to transforming lives in mission! Thank the Lord with us for this opportunity to join together and remember the price so many people around the world are paying for their faith in Jesus. *“I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.” Revelation 1:18*

Monday [28]: Bob & Chris Davis

Thailand

- ① Please pray for our language and cultural studies, that God would give us the abilities we need to communicate effectively. Pray also for our son Philip (17) as he adjusts to living and working back in the States. Pray for our son Jason (8) as we need a teacher for him for the next six months, while we finish up the 1st year of language studies.

Pray for our team, that God would raise up new members who will make a long-term commitment to serve with us in Northern Thailand. Pray for decisions regarding relocating after our 1st year is completed. Where should we live? How should we go about continuing language study? Jason's education? *“Will*

you rely on him for his great strength? Will you leave your heavy work to him? Can you trust him to bring in your grain and gather it to your threshing floor?"

Job 39:11,12

Tuesday [29]: Tim & Denice Kuhns

Brazil

- ① Please join us in praying for Tim and Denice as they teach at the PanAmerican Christian Academy in Sao Paulo. We are asking God to grant them wisdom, discernment, joy and energy as they invest into next generation leaders. Pray with us that God would use Tim and Denice to mold and shape these students into the people God purposes to bring the nations to the saving knowledge of His son Jesus. *"Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."* Exodus 4:12

Wednesday [30]: Einer & Girlesa Zuluaga

Panama

- ① Join with us in praying for Einer and Girlesa as they serve the Embera and Wounan people groups through discipleship and leadership development. They also serve alongside the Colombian MB Conference. We are asking God for the salvation of these people groups in Panama and for spiritual leaders to be raised up to go out into other Latin American countries. Pray that Einer and Girlesa would continue to lean on the strength of the Lord and that their ministry would see much fruit as God blesses them. *"With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall."* 2 Samuel 22:30

Thursday [31]: Missionary Training Institute [MTI] Abbotsford, BC

- ① Please pray for the five people engaged in our training institute. They are currently involved in a number of modules that vary from suffering to spiritual gifts and living in a cross cultural environment. Pray that God would continue to clearly speak into their lives, guiding them, directing them, molding them, preparing them and teaching them. We continue to ask for their protection spiritually as they walk down this road of career mission work. May God use them as they offer their lives as a spiritual act of worship to Him. *"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"* Isaiah 6:8

SPECIAL PRAISE!!

After more than a year in prison, the three remaining pastors in Southeast Asia have been released and have returned to their families. THANK you for your prayers. Join us in giving thanks to God for his everlasting faithfulness!

Prayer for the Nations



While South Africa enjoys freedom of religion, there has been much advocacy to profile certain ethnic African religions, including Islam, Hinduism and humanism. This movement has negatively impacted the spread of Christianity in the country.

Refugees from DR Congo in South Africa often find themselves on the outskirts of society. Our church plant in Durban, South Africa, welcomes the refugees and invites them into community and fellowship with Christ while also reaching out to Zulu people in the community. Currently working in church planting and outreach in this area are Baudouin and Marie-Brigitte and their children, Priscille, Joseph-Joel and Silas.

How do I pray for South Africa?

- 1) **Pray for the government leaders.** Ask God for committed Christian leaders, wisdom in decision making and fair laws. A new leadership structure was decided by the African National Congress in December so pray for peace as this transition takes place.
- 2) **Pray for church leaders.** Ask God to bless the pastors and church leaders as they serve their communities. Pour your love into their hearts, give them strength, and grant them vision for their people.
- 3) **Pray for families** affected by AIDS, which is currently the primary cause of death for South Africans. Pray that Christians would be able to help care for victims and their families and to raise the moral standards in the country.
- 4) **Pray for open hearts** that many would experience your Truth and Life.

CALL THE OFFICE IN YOUR AREA

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