



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 2009

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.

We invite you to read stories of how
God is answering your prayers at
www.mbmsi.org/prayerstories

**“God’s voice thunders in
marvelous ways; he does
great things beyond our
understanding.”**

Job 37:5

This Daily Prayer Guide is available
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January 1-3

Thursday [1]: Andy & Carmen Owen

Thailand

The Owens provide pastoral support to The Life Center church plant in Chonburi as part of Team 2000, where a number of teens were recently baptized. **Pray** that this new generation of Jesus-followers will pursue Jesus with passion and will be able to stand against the expectations of their traditional Buddhist culture. **Pray** for continued creativity for the church leadership as they communicate the life-transforming message of Jesus through English classes, Bible camps, and break dancing. The Owens have been in the process of adopting a Thai child for several years. **Pray** that they will be able to welcome their child into their home very soon.

"Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!"

Psalm 31:24

Friday [2]: Erica Ray

Mexico

Erica is a newly commissioned missionary to Mexico who has been spending time in North America mobilizing a team of prayer and financial support. **Pray** that she will embrace God's timing and that God will use her in mighty ways as she shares her story and continues to engage in ministry here in North America. **Pray** that God will use her gifts of teaching to equip and call out a new generation of missionaries both here and in Mexico. As she works alongside the Matthew Team, studies Spanish, and lives with one of the families from the RETO church plant, **pray** that God will give her grace, understanding and vision.

"It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority." Acts 1:7

Saturday [3]: Melanie Humphreys

Lithuania

Melanie provides significant leadership at LCC International University as Vice President of Student Life. **Pray** for her as she teaches, counsels and mentors students from a variety of backgrounds and countries. **Pray** that God will use Melanie as a strategic voice for Christianity and the transforming love of Jesus at the school and in the city of Klaipeda. **Pray** that as a result of Melanie's ministry, students who do not yet know the Lord will encounter Him in ways that transform their lives. As the staff team works together and strives to serve the students effectively, **pray** that the team would be characterized by unity in vision and purpose.

"Him we proclaim, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man mature in Christ. For this I toil, striving with all the energy which he mightily inspires within me." Colossians 1:28-29

January 4-10

Sunday [4]: Sandra Fender

Thailand

Praise God that Sandra has arrived safely in Thailand! After 23 months of mobilization, including application, training and support-raising, Sandy is excited to have embarked on a new phase of this journey of faith and is currently studying the Thai language at the Lopburi Language Center. **Pray** for a sharp mind and an open heart as she learns language and culture, and **pray** that God will gather a community around her who will build her up in her faith. **Pray** also that Sandy will have opportunity to build relationship with people who need to hear about the love Jesus has for them. **Pray** that Sandy will be full of wonder and joy as she transitions into life in Thailand.

"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." II Corinthians 9:8

Monday [5]: John N. & Mary Klassen Returned from Germany

After 48 years of missionary service in Germany, the Klassens have returned to Canada and are now serving in new ways. As they lead Bible studies and call churches to engagement with ministry in Europe, **pray** that the Lord will grant them favor and the ability to communicate His heart for "post-Christian" Europe. **Pray** also for continued good health and abundant energy and joy for this new task to which God has called them. **Thank** God for the years of fruitful service which the Klassens have already had, and **pray** for multiplied fruit as the leaders they have trained serve in a variety of ministries and locations.

"Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness." Matthew 25:21

Tuesday [6]: Doris Goertz

Japan

Doris has recently been remobilized to serve as a long term missionary in Japan. As she prepares to work closely with the Amagasaki MB Church teaching English and providing leadership to shorter term ESL teachers in Japan, **pray** that the Lord will give her joy, wisdom and the ability to be an effective communicator of the Gospel. **Pray** that the Lord will use her gifts in translation, teaching and leading worship to build up the church and to lead many people into the presence of the Lord. **Pray** that the Lord will continue to grow the Japan MB Conference and empower its leaders, and that He will continue to gather a team of prayer and financial support around Doris and her ministry.

"...stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." I Corinthians 15:58

Wednesday [7]: Murray & Faith Nickel

DR Congo

Murray & Faith live in North America, and are significantly involved with ministry in DR Congo, where they served as missionaries for a number of years. As Murray & Faith provide support and consultation to MB leaders in DR Congo, **pray** that

relationships will remain strong and effective as they partner together for the development of improved healthcare, social programs, higher education, and the operation of Christian businesses. **Praise** God that many of these initiatives are having a transforming impact on people’s lives and **pray** that God will enable the Congolese leaders of these initiatives to continue to manage these projects with wisdom and integrity. **Pray** for health and safety for the Nickels as they travel from Canada to DR Congo on a regular basis.

*“Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.”
Proverbs 29:25*

Thursday [8]: Phone Keo & Chansone

RESTRICTED

Phone Keo & Chansone live in North America, and spend significant amounts of time serving in another part of the world, where they sometimes encounter danger. **Pray** that the Lord will grant them and the pastors they serve wisdom, safety, boldness and abundant opportunity to share the love of Jesus. Despite persecution, the church in this area is flourishing. **Pray** that believers in this area will continue to grow and mature in their faith, and that their neighbors will encounter Jesus. **Praise** God for the healthy relationship between Phone Keo and the local church leaders, and **pray** that God will reveal His vision to them as they lead, serve and pray together.

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.” II Corinthians 4:8-9

Friday [9]: Saji & Bindu

RESTRICTED

After several years of service in a restricted access country, Saji & Bindu are spending some time in North America for a season of rest, encouragement and preparation for their return to the field. **Pray** that their entire family will be rejuvenated physically, spiritually and emotionally during this time. **Praise** God for the many opportunities they have had to connect with friends and family while they have been in North America, and **pray** that He will give them His vision and direction for the next phase in their life of ministry. **Pray** that the Lord will use Saji & Bindu to point people toward Jesus while they are in North America.

“The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.” Zephaniah 3:17

Saturday [10]: Randy Friesen, General Director

In the next two weeks, Randy will be in Thailand visiting missionaries and ministries of MBMSI. **Pray** that God will enable Randy to speak encouragement and blessing into the lives of our missionaries, and that this will be a time of strategic discernment as MBMSI continues to increase its involvement in Thailand. **Praise** God for the missionaries who are serving faithfully in Thailand, and for the work God is doing through them. **Pray** that Randy will continue to rely on the strength and wisdom of God as he provides leadership to MBMSI.

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. The Lord works out everything for his own ends.” Proverbs 16:3-4a

Sunday [11]: TREK training

Abbotsford

Today, the MBMSI Winter TREK program begins! Participants have gathered in Abbotsford for 8 weeks of intensive discipleship training and preparation for cross-cultural ministry. **Pray** for the TREK staff, Luke Haidle and Lori Nickel, as they provide oversight, strategic leadership and spiritual direction to the program. **Praise** God for the team of volunteers, including cooks and mentors, who add an incredible amount of value to the program. **Pray** that God will use this time to shape each participant and to enable them to discern the call on their lives.

“Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.” Psalm 143:10

Monday [12]: Stacy Kuhns

Mexico

Stacy is now in Guadalajara learning from and serving alongside the Matthew Team. **Praise** God that He has raised up a team of prayer and financial supporters around Stacy! As she studies language and learns culture in both formal and informal settings- in the classroom and also while living with a Mexican host family- **pray** that her mind will be sharp and her memory will be strong. **Pray** too for her adjustment into life in a new city, and that she will thoroughly enjoy discovering how to communicate, how to get around, and where to find the things she needs. One of Stacy’s desires is that her prayer life will be deepened in this season. **Pray** that the Lord will meet her in tangible, intimate ways.

“I will give you thanks, for you answered me.” Psalm 118:21a

Tuesday [13]: Laurence & Leona Hiebert

Japan

Laurence & Leona have served faithfully in Toyota city for many years and have had opportunity to share the love of Jesus with many people. Recently they have been investing in the lives of several families in crisis. **Praise** God for the ability he has given them to speak wisdom, truth and love into the situations. **Praise** God for His provision thus far for the unique educational needs of their son Trenton, and **pray** that God will continue to provide everything for this family that is needed as Laurence & Leona balance parenthood with ministry.

“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.” Isaiah 40:29

Wednesday [14]: ACTION:Generations

Brazil

Today is the first day of our new ACTION:Generations program. Regional Mobilizers Lloyd & Carol Letkeman will be meeting a group of adult participants in Brazil for a time of training before entering into several weeks of ministry in Sao Paulo. **Pray** that this group of North Americans will be sensitive to cultural differences, eager to engage in relationship with those they meet, and a real support to Jim & Marilou Nightingale, MBMSI missionaries in Brazil. **Pray** that God will

use this time to bring transformation to the lives of each participant, and also to the people God puts in their path.

"The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." Isaiah 58:11

Thursday [15]: Berlin MB Church **Germany**

The Berlin MB Church is in the midst of a significant transition, as they have recently moved to a new building in a new part of the city. **Pray** for Andrew & Olga Pritzkau as they provide leadership, especially during this time of change for their congregation. **Praise** the Lord that He continues to send people to help with the ministry and renovations needed on the building, including a TREK team that has been serving in Berlin since early November. **Pray** that the Berlin MB Church will flourish and see many lives transformed by the Gospel, and **pray** that it will become a missionary sending church.

"We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing." II Thessalonians 1:3

Friday [16]: Tim & Denice Kuhns **Brazil**

Tim & Denice serve at the Pan American Christian Academy, where they have many meaningful opportunities to connect with and disciple students. **Pray** that Tim & Denice will be able to relate well to the students, and that the students will trust them. **Pray** that they will also be able to build relationships with people in the community where they live and that they'll have opportunities to shine the light of Jesus in their neighborhood. **Pray** that people will come to know Jesus as a result of their relationship with Tim & Denice. **Pray** that Tim & Denice will be one in spirit and purpose, and will grow continually deeper in love with one another.

"...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Saturday [17]: Member Care Volunteers **Worldwide**

God has blessed MBMSI with a team of gifted, caring individuals who volunteer their time to encourage and support MBMSI missionaries with visits on the field. Ron & Betty Russell, John & Isabelle Balzer, and Frank & Esther Martens are all committed to using their gifts to pour into missionaries on the front lines. As these volunteers provide practical help, encouragement, prayer ministry and love, **pray** that God will use them to refresh, renew and revitalize our missionaries. **Pray** that these couples will be blessed with discernment, wisdom and grace as they minister. **Praise** God that he has already used these couples as agents of healing and encouragement for a number of MBMSI missionaries, and **pray** that the MBMSI Member Care team will be able to discern where their ministry is needed.

"I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong – that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." Romans 1:11-12

January 18-24

Sunday [18]: Missionary Training Institute **Abbotsford**

Eleven new missionary candidates have just begun a second semester of training in Abbotsford. **Pray** for them during this time of preparation, discernment and discipleship with MBMSI staff. **Pray** for Trevor & Rebekah, Motohiro & Mariya, Matt & Ruth, Dave & Mel, Luke, and Ben & Melissa as they all prepare for ministry in various countries. **Pray** that God will meet them during this time, and teach them more about themselves and Himself. **Pray** for Al Stobbe as he provides leadership and for the rest of the support team as they serve these missionary candidates. **Pray** for those who will be teaching and mentoring the MTIers, and **pray** that the leadership of MBMSI will be able to discern clearly the next steps for this group.

"Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace be with you." Philipianes 4:9

Monday [19]: Finance Team **Abbotsford**

Under the leadership of Selwyn Uittenbosch, the finance team (Dale Regier, Gayle Doerksen, Dianne Schroeder, Rachel Wall and Susan Blaney) manage a significant number of processes that enable the various missionaries and partners of MBMSI to accomplish the purposes to which God has called them. We thank God for their attention to detail, their passion for missions and their joy as they serve. **Pray** that God would bless them and their families, and that He would continue to give them focus and energy as they perform a vital function on the MBMSI team.

"The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building." I Corinthians 3:8-9

Tuesday [20]: Ernie & Elfrieda Reimer **Lithuania**

Pray for Ernie & Elfrieda as they provide support for MBMSI projects in Lithuania. Based in Fort St. John, BC, Ernie & Elfrieda face the challenge of doing ministry from a distance. **Pray** for wisdom to be able to overcome these challenges and for safety as they make trips between Canada and Lithuania. **Praise** God for their willingness to volunteer during their retirement years and **pray** that God would continue to give them wisdom, strength and the ability to speak into the lives of people in Lithuania. Continue to **pray** that the Lord will give them strategic vision for the advancement of God's Kingdom in Lithuania.

"I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance..." Revelation 2:19

Wednesday [21]: Robert & Erika Sukkau **Returned from Peru**

After years of ministry in Trujillo, the Sukkaus have returned to North America. As they spend January & February closing off their term of service by reconnecting with their support network, **pray** that they would be able to bring glory to God as they communicate stories of transformed lives in Peru. **Pray** for safety and good health as the Sukkaus travel. As they transition into life in North America, **pray**

that they will find ways to use their gifts and abilities to continue to serve. **Pray** for the church in Trujillo as they adjust to Bob & Erika's absence and **praise** God for the strong leadership that is in place.

"He gave them these orders: 'You must serve faithfully and wholeheartedly in the fear of the Lord.'" II Chronicles 19:9

Thursday [22]: John Ervin

Worldwide

John is a media resource missionary who captures stories of God's transformational work through video and photography in order that the North American church may celebrate what God is doing as a result of their partnership with missionaries around the world. **Pray** that churches and individuals will be led into worship as they experience these stories, and also that they will be called to deeper engagement in global mission. This ministry requires a high degree of creativity and discernment, as well as expertise. **Praise** God for the gifts that He has given John and for his obedience in using them to bring glory to God.

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men." I Corinthians 12:4-6

Friday [23]: Jose & Esperanza Prada

Peru

Jose & Esperanza are pastors in a church plant in Lima, working alongside Otto & Lidia Funk, Jacqueline Hidalgo and Alejandro Lopes. **Pray** that as people in the community observe this team, they will be drawn to Jesus by the unity that they see, and **pray** that the church members will be a vibrant and relevant witness in their city. Continue to **pray** that the Lord will provide an appropriate facility in which their church can meet, and **pray** that the church will continue to grow in maturity and numbers. **Ask** the Lord to continue to give Jose & Esperanza vision, and the ability to lead their team with grace, energy and passion.

"Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

II Corinthians 4:16-18

Saturday [24]: Celebrate Mission Night

Waterloo

Tonight, Ray Harms-Wiebe (Lead Team, Global Program) along with Philip Serez (Regional Mobilizer, Eastern Canada), will be hosting an MBMS International Celebrate Missions Night event at Waterloo MB Church. **Pray** that the Lord will use this event to call people to greater involvement in global mission through going, praying and giving. **Ask** the Lord to prompt many people to attend this event. **Pray** that worshipping together will lead to deeper unity among MB churches in the region as they respond to the call to engage together in global mission.

"Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." I Chronicles 16:29

January 25-31

Sunday [25]: Celebrate Mission Night

Niagara Falls, ON

Tonight, Ray Harms-Wiebe (Lead Team, Global Program) along with Philip Serez (Regional Mobilizer, Eastern Canada), will be hosting an MBMS International Celebrate Missions Night event at Mountain Park Church. **Pray** that the Lord will use this event to call people to greater involvement in global mission through going, praying and giving. **Ask** the Lord to prompt many people to attend this event. **Pray** that worshipping together will lead to deeper unity among MB churches in the region as they respond to the call to engage together in global mission.

"I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth." Psalm 57:9-11

Monday [26]: Liana Penner

Peru

Liana has been a faithful servant in Trujillo for many years offering encouragement and love to many people who God has put in her path. **Praise** God for her faithful obedience and **pray** that God will continue to give her joy in her work. **Pray** for the MB Conference in Peru, who recently appointed a new leader, Pastor George Rodriguez from Trujillo. **Pray** that church leaders throughout Peru will experience God in ever deeper ways that continue to transform them spiritually so that they can reach out to their communities with grace and passion.

"For in Christ Jesus...the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love." Galatians 5:6

Tuesday [27]: Kevin & Wendy

RESTRICTED

Kevin & Wendy currently live in North America and are engaged in ministry among Arabic speaking people, primarily in North Africa. Kevin is helping to provide leadership for the Oasis project, meeting with national church leaders in North Africa for the purpose of training, discipling and encouraging. One of the needs these leaders have is training materials in the areas of biblical studies, discipleship and leadership. Kevin is helping to establish an online Bible school for North Africans who want to learn more about faith and ministry. Kevin & Wendy write, "it is an amazing opportunity and we are in desperate need of your prayers."

"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer." Psalm 34:15

Wednesday [28]: Jen Schmidt

Mexico

Jen has spent the last few years serving on the Matthew Team in Guadalajara, providing leadership to a youth group at the RETO church plant and hosting a variety of short term teams. **Praise** God for the opportunity Jen has had to spend several months on Mobilization in North America (MINA), connecting with family, friends and supporters. **Pray** that Jen's transition back into life in Guadalajara will be smooth and enjoyable as she re-engages with youth in the church and others in her community. **Pray** that she will continue to be

equipped for the privilege of discipling youth and young adults and that the Matthew Team will be characterized by unity and clarity of vision.

"If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it 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."

1 Peter 4:11

Thursday [29]: MBMSI Staff

Praise God for Lloyd & Carol Letkeman, Eileen Klassen and Fern Janzen, who serve faithfully and diligently in Central Canada, calling individuals and churches to engage in global mission by going, praying and giving. **Pray** that God will bless the relationships that the Central Canada team have with MB churches in Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and **pray** that God will continue to raise up and send out workers from this in this region. As they continue to settle in to a new office space, **pray** for patience and flexibility.

"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

Friday [30]: Dave & Louise Sinclair-Peters

Dave & Louise have been serving with Team 2000 in Chonburi, and are providing vision and support to the Bethel church plant in Chachoernsao. **Praise** God that people have been coming to know Jesus as a result of this ministry. Please **pray** along with the leadership of the church, "Lord God, we ask that you would help us as Shepherds to show our new believers how high, how wide and how deep is the love of Christ. We **pray** that the Word of God would go deep into their hearts and that they would stand firm in their faith in the midst of abandonment, poverty and persecution."

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:38-39

Saturday [31]: Einer & Girlesa Zuluaga

Einer & Girlesa have been involved for years with the indigenous Wounaan people of Panama, sharing the gospel with this jungle tribe, discipling believers and supporting local church leadership. Girlesa has been facing significant health challenges in recent months. **Pray** that God's hand of healing will be upon her. **Pray** that her Doctors will be gifted with knowledge as they provide diagnosis and treatment. **Pray** that Girlesa will be encouraged by the Lord and that she will experience peace that surpasses understanding. **Pray** that God will provide Einer with the strength to be a strong support to his wife while he continues to engage in ministry.

"Remember, O Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes... You restored me to health and let me live. Surely it was for my benefit that I suffered such anguish... The living – they praise you, as I am doing today!" Isaiah 38:3, 16b, 17a, 19a

Prayer for the Nations

Panama



Because of its strategic location and the Panama Canal, this nation has become a melting pot of many races. It is a nation of great diversity and great potential. The country's motto is "Panama, Bridge to the World, Heart of the Universe." Panama is a secular

state with religious freedom, but also a recognition of Catholicism as the religion of the majority. There has been significant moral decay in the nation, with well over 50% of births happening outside the bounds of marriage. The evangelical church continues to grow and Christians are having a positive influence on the value system in Panama.

Please pray:

- That Christians will lead the way in living lives of discipleship and faith, and that the moral fabric of Panamanian society will be shaped significantly by Biblical values.
- That the Christians in Panama will be a "Bridge to the Gospel", and that as people from around the globe pass through Panama, they will encounter Jesus and bring the gospel to their home nations.
- For Einer and Girlesa Zuluaga as they minister among the indigenous Wounaan people.

CALL THE OFFICE IN YOUR AREA

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