



Daily Prayer Guide



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

Psalm 2:8

September 2008

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.

“Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”.

I Thess. 5:16-18

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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September 1-6

Monday [1]: **Barbara Block**

India

Barbara's ministry involves teaching art at Kodai Kanal International School in India. As Barbara interacts with students at this school, pray that she will be able to show the love of Jesus to these children in ways that they will be able to understand. The school where Barbara ministers is connected to a home for 40 orphaned or abandoned children who are receiving care and education. Pray that the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of these children will be met. Pray that Barbara will remain encouraged in her ministry, that the Lord will continue to provide for her, and that she will see real life change in the students with whom she spends time.

"Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." Matt: 5:19

Tuesday [2]: **MBMSI Staff**

Waterloo

Philip Serez (Regional Mobilizer) and Heidi Mikitka (Administrative Assistant) are the Regional Mobilization team for Eastern Canada. As they serve Mennonite Brethren churches in their region, pray that they will be able to communicate a vision from the Lord that will cause individuals, families and churches to participate in new and deeper ways in short term and longer term mission. Pray for favor with people they encounter, for boldness as they share the wonderful things that God is doing around the globe, and for joy as they serve the church through this ministry. Pray also that their families would remain strong, healthy, and in love with Jesus.

"The word of the Lord spread through the whole region." Acts 13:49

Wednesday [3]: **Mark & Amy**

RESTRICTED

Mark and Amy have recently returned to their home in Asia, after spending several months of Mobilization in North America (MINA). As they reintegrate into life and relationships that they had before spending time in North America, pray that the Lord will give them strength, patience and joy. Pray also that Mark, Amy and their children will be able to remain confident and secure in the calling on their lives, and that the Lord will give them fresh vision and surprise them with the ministry opportunities he has in store for them. Pray that they will be challenged to be deliberate in their friendships and to live their lives at a slow enough pace so as to enjoy the moment and to notice what God is doing around them.

"Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight." Ps. 119:35

Thursday [4]: **Laurence and Leona Hiebert**

Japan

The Hieberts have had a very busy last six months. They have hosted and disciplined a TREK team and an ACTION team. Pray that they will be able to follow up with all of the contacts that have been made through the various outreach activities in which these teams were involved. Ask God's Spirit to move in these contact's lives to draw them to Jesus and convict them of their need for Him and His salvation. Pray also that the church that the Hieberts serve in Toyota City will be a dynamic presence in the community, and that people will be drawn to Jesus as a result of what they see in the lives of the Hieberts and others from the church. Most people the Hieberts know work as engineers, designers, managers, assemblers, or parts manufacturers. They are committed to their work and have little interest in spiritual things. Pray that God will break into these people's hearts and lives.

"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." Is. 42:16

Friday [5]: **Andy and Carmen Owen**

Thailand

Andy and Carmen Owen and their sons Connor and Isaac are part of Team 2000, based in Chonburi, Thailand. Pray that the ministry at The Life Center church would continue to see people come to know Jesus. Andy and Carmen report that "As a church we are committing to each lead another person to the Lord (one by one), and to daily walk out our faith through personal devotions and corporate gatherings (day by day)." Pray that this vision will come to fruition and that the church would continue to see growth both numerically and in maturity. Pray that the Owen family will continue to be a united front as a family, and that they will be encouraged by the Lord's presence in their life and ministry.

"And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD." Ezekiel 38:23

Saturday [6]: **Otto and Marjorie Ekk**

Portugal

The Ekks lead an emerging church in the outskirts of Lisbon and give leadership and vision for two more church plants along with other projects in Portugal. Earlier this summer, Marjorie's father passed into the presence of the Lord. Pray that the God would provide the comfort and strength that the Ekks need in this season of grief and loss. As the Ekks serve in Portugal, pray for continued vision for ministry, favor with the people that God puts in their path, and strength among their team. Pray that the Ekks will be able to witness transformed lives as people encounter the Lord for the first time.

"But our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power which enables him even to subject all things to himself." Phil. 3:20, 21

September 7-13

Sunday [7]: TREK Program

Abbotsford, BC

Participants in the Fall TREK program arrive in Abbotsford today to begin eight weeks of training. After their training, teams of four to six people will be sent to work with longer term MBMS International missionaries from November 2008 to June 2009. Pray that participants will encounter Jesus in a significant way during the training season, so that their hearts and lives are better prepared for serving in an international context. Pray for Luke Haidle, TREK director, and Lori Nickel, TREK administrator, as they provide leadership, counsel and vision for this program. As missionary hosts prepare for TREK teams to arrive, pray that God will give them insight into how to use these teams most strategically.

"That men may know wisdom and instruction, understand words of insight, receive instruction in wise dealing, righteousness, justice, and equity." Prov. 1:2, 3

Monday [8]: Bob and Christina Davis

Thailand

Bob and Christina Davis have been working alongside Louise Sinclair-Peters (Team 2000) and two Thai church planters at the Bethel Church plant near Chonburi. Ask the Lord to show them daily who and how the Lord wants them to serve. Praise the Lord for the following report: "We have seen some throw out their idols of their own accord. We have seen them eagerly embrace the love of God, knowing life will not be trouble free and that it may cost them troubles in their family. We have seen faces changed from dark and clouded with sadness to reflecting the light and joy of Christ's love." Pray for alert minds as they continue to learn Thai, for the Lord to continually clarify their vision for ministry, and for many people to become followers of Jesus as a result of their witness.

"Therefore I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations; I will sing praises to your name." II Samuel 22:50

Tuesday [9]: Sandra Plett

Mexico

Sandra Plett serves as part of the MBMS International Matthew Team in Guadalajara, Mexico. She is currently in Canada for a few months of Mobilization in North America (MINA). Pray that as she connects with current supporters she will be able to communicate her experiences in ways that bring glory to God and lead people into worship. As she connects with a variety of new contacts and churches, pray that the Lord will call strategic people to partner with her in ministry by supporting her with prayer, finances, and in a variety of other ways. Pray also that this would be a time of refreshment and of meaningful connection with family and friends.

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." Ps. 91:1

Wednesday [10]: Melvin and Gudrun Warkentin

Paraguay

Pray for Melvin and Gudrun as they serve at the Indian Bible Institute in Yalve Sange, Paraguay. As Melvin teaches pastoral ministries to students, pray that God would give him insight into the types of training that these students need in order to minister effectively to their own people group. The indigenous people that the Warkentins are serving come from an animistic worldview. Pray that new converts would come to grasp the truths of a holy God who calls them to a life of repentance, faith and obedience, and that they would be able to live lives that reflect the love of Jesus.

"Many nations will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.' The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem." Micah 4:2

Thursday [11]: Kevin and Karlene Klassen

Thailand

The Klassen serve with the MBMS International Operation 2nd Wave (O2W) team in Phuket, Thailand. They are in the midst of learning Thai language and culture, and have also started connecting with neighbors and with other Christians in Phuket. Pray that the Klassen will be able to build strong relationships with their neighbors, and that their neighbors would come to know Jesus. Pray for unity of purpose and vision among the O2W team, and that people would be drawn to Jesus because of the love and unity that they witness in this team. Praise God for the lives that are already being transformed in Phuket, and pray that the churches will continue to grow and be established in that city.

"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. Say among the nations, 'The Lord reigns! Yea, the world is established, it shall never be moved; He will judge the peoples with equity.'" Ps. 96:3, 10

Friday [12]: Richard and Hazel Funk

Austria

The Funks are involved in teaching, preaching, counseling and mentoring in Salzburg and throughout the Mennonite Brethren conference in Austria. As they train and support people in leadership roles, pray that the Lord will give them great wisdom and discernment. Praise God for the growth that the Salzburg MB church is experiencing, and pray that the leaders would continue to walk in humility, obedience and grace as they lead this group of believers. Pray also that the MB conference in Austria would be used by God as a vital community of transformation in that nation.

"My mouth will speak words of wisdom; the utterance from my heart will give understanding." Ps. 49:3

Saturday [13]: Robert and Anne Thiessen

Mexico

Robert and Anne are working with the Mixteco indigenous people group in southern Mexico. They are doing church planting and raising up leaders from among the new members. Pray for wisdom as they identify and train leaders, and that the Lord will enable the Thiessens strategically to multiply godly leaders within this people group. Pray for strength and unity in the Thiessen family, and that their presence in the community would point people toward Jesus.

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others." II Tim. 2:2

September 14-20

Sunday [14]: Jose and Esperanza Prada

Peru

The Pradas serve in Lima, providing leadership to a church plant there. Pray that there will be great unity with their teammates, Otto and Lidia Funk. As they lead the church, pray for wisdom, the ability to teach the Bible with clarity and effectiveness, and that the church members will trust them as they provide discipleship. Pray that Jose and Esperanza's relationship with each other and with the Lord will remain strong, and that they will thoroughly enjoy working as a couple in ministry together. Pray that the Pradas will have abundant opportunities to build new connections with people in their community, and that many of them will come to know the Lord.

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." Heb. 13:17

Monday [15]: Jim and Marilou Nightingale

Brazil

The Nightingales are serving in Sao Paulo and are working with MB churches developing a camping ministry for children, young people, couples and families. Another component of this ministry will be a Pastor and Leadership Retreat Center. Praise God for the timely, generous provision of the initial payment needed for this property. As the MB conference in Brazil grows and expands, pray that the Lord will continue to put godly people in positions of leadership and discernment. Pray that Jim and Marilou will be able to lead with integrity, vision, obedience and passion.

"Let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart." Gal. 6:9

Tuesday [16]: Regional Mobilizer Summit

Abbotsford, BC

This week the team of North American Regional Mobilizers will be gathering for three days of establishing vision, planning for the coming season, and building team. Pray for Sam Dick (Mobilization Coordinator) as he leads these sessions. As they plan for the next year, pray that the team would be attentive to the Lord's voice and obedient to His leading. Pray for Philip Serez (Eastern Canada), Galen Wiest (Western US), Craig Jost (Midwest US), John Best (Western Canada), and Lloyd and Carol Letkeman (Central Canada) as they seek to encourage and enable the missional heart within Mennonite Brethren churches in their regions.

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumph, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing". II Cor. 2:14, 15

Wednesday [17]: Robert and Marlene

RESTRICTED

Robert and Marlene are currently in North America, connecting with individuals and churches that support them, during a season of Mobilization in North America (MINA). Praise God that lives are being transformed in the Central Asian country where Robert and Marlene serve. Pray that churches will be established and that new believers will have an opportunity to grow and be disciplined. As Robert and Marlene spend time in North America, pray that they will experience rejuvenation, a reignited vision for ministry, and that their support team will have renewed excitement about the ministry in which they are participating from a distance.

"For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere....." I Thess. 1:8

Thursday [18]: Trever and Joan Godard

Mexico

Trever and Joan provide leadership to the MBMSI Matthew Team, and Trever also serves as country leader for MBMSI ministries throughout Mexico. As they lead, pray for wisdom, grace and vision. Praise God for the people who accepted Jesus as Lord this summer through a variety of outreach ministries, and pray that these people will have ample opportunity to receive discipleship. One of the ministries that Trever and Joan are investing in is the Matthew Training Center, a missionary training center that will train Latino people and others for missionary service around the globe. As the Matthew Training Center enters a new season, pray that God would use this ministry to equip and enable effective missionaries.

"You shall teach them the statutes and the decisions, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do." Ex. 18:20

Friday [19]: Phone Keo and Chansone

RESTRICTED

Phone Keo and Chansone are involved in supporting, training and resourcing a group of churches among a least-reached people group in southeast Asia. Praise God for this couple who have sacrificed many things willingly for the sake of the advancement of the gospel. Pray for favor at border crossings so that they can enter the countries to which they have been called to minister. Pray also for great wisdom as they teach, and for continued health and safety.

"I will freely sacrifice unto thee: I will praise thy name, O Lord; for it is good." Ps. 54:6

Saturday [20]: John and Evelyn Wiens

Ukraine

John and Evelyn Wiens are learning culture and language in Zaporozhye, Ukraine. As they build relationships in their community, pray that the Lord will give them open doors to tell their new friends and neighbors about Jesus. Pray that John and Ev will walk closely with Jesus, relying only on his strength. As they plan for ministry in the fall using the Alpha program, pray that God will give them wisdom about how best to use this tool. Pray also that the Lord will enable them to see people with his eyes, having a deep love and compassion for people who do not yet know the Living God.

"By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another." John 13:35

September 21-27

Sunday [21]: Celebrate Missions Night

Winnipeg, MB

Tonight at North Kildonan MB Church in Winnipeg, Randy Friesen (General Director) along with Lloyd and Carol Letkeman (Regional Mobilizers, Central Canada), will be hosting an MBMS International Celebrate Missions Night. Pray that the Lord will use this evening to call people to greater involvement in missions 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.

"All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord: and all the families of the nations shall worship before Him." Ps. 22:27

Monday [22]: Rob and Judy Griffioen

Thailand

Rob and Judy are the leaders of MBMSI's Operation 2nd Wave (O2W) team. They are currently in North America connecting with individual and church supporters during Mobilization in North America (MINA). Pray that their team will continue to function healthily and productively in the absence of their leadership. As the Griffioens meet a variety of people and serve churches in various ways over the next few months, pray that the Lord will give them the ability to communicate well the vision for ministry that God has given them. Praise God for the connections the Griffioens have made with their Thai neighbors and with the tsunami victims they helped on Koh Kho Khao Island. Pray that the relationships that they are forming will lead to greater things in the future.

"Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." Is. 42:9

Tuesday [23]: Otto and Lidia Funk

Peru

The Funks live and serve in Lima, along with Jose and Esperanza Prada. Pray for wisdom as they spend much time and energy working with the young people of the church plant. Pray also that their team would have unity, and that they will be able to show love and support for each other consistently. As the Funks and Pradas minister in Lima, pray that the congregation would grow both numerically and in their commitment to Jesus.

"Go therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 28:19

Wednesday [24]: Jason and Andrea Edwards

Brazil

Jason and Andrea are serving at Pan American Christian Academy (PACA) in Sao Paulo, and are also involved in a Mennonite Brethren church plant near the school. Jason teaches history and Bible. Andrea is the school nurse and health teacher. Pray for God's transforming work in the lives of students at PACA. Pray that the church plant in which they are involved will grow and that many people will come

to a saving knowledge of Jesus as a result of the ministry of the church. As this couple serves in the early years of their marriage, pray that God will give them great strength, love and unity in their relationship with each other.

"The Lord is faithful; He will strengthen you and guard you from evil. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things which we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ." II Thess. 3:3-5

Thursday [25]: Doris Goertz

Japan

Doris will be serving in the Amagasaki MB Church, where she will use her gifts in the areas of music, teaching English and Bible, evangelism, discipleship and preaching to further the work of God's kingdom in Japan. She is in the final stages of raising support and getting necessary visas in order to serve in Japan. Pray that the Lord will have his hand on all logistics and that visa applications will be processed without complication. One of the consistent ways that people have been led to Jesus in Japan has been through the building of long-term relationships through English classes. Pray that Doris will play a strategic role in sharing the gospel, and that much fruit will result as she plants seeds of truth and love.

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes." Ps. 118:8, 9

Friday [26]: Vic and Marty Wiens

Worldwide

After many years of serving in Brazil, Vic and Marty have relocated to the US. Vic is serving as a resource to Mennonite Brethren churches in the Portuguese-speaking world. In this past year he has traveled to Brazil, Portugal and Angola, connecting with church leadership and missionaries in these countries. As Vic travels, pray for peace and protection for his family in his absence. Pray also for protection from disease and danger, and that he would continue to walk in the Spirit and would have the mind of Christ for each conversation and meeting.

"The Lord recompense your work, and a full reward be given you of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to trust." Ruth 2:12

Saturday [27]: Phil and Carol Bergen

Burkina Faso

Phil and Carol are investing their lives in reaching the Nanerige people of Burkina Faso with the gospel. Praise God for the growth of a church plant that has started within this past year. Nine people recently expressed interest in being baptized. Praise God that he is working in the hearts and lives of Nanerige people. Pray that more people would come to know Jesus, and that the connections that have been made over the years and as a result of short-term teams serving in Burkina would result in abundant and lasting fruit.

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and exult in thee, I will sing praise to thy name, O Most High." Ps. 9:1,2

Sunday [28]: Celebrate Missions Night

Visalia, CA

Tonight at Neighborhood Church in Visalia, Randy Friesen (General Director) along with Galen Wiest (Regional Mobilizer, Western US), will be hosting an MBMS International Celebrate Missions Night. Pray that the Lord will use this evening to call people to greater involvement in missions 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.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Phil. 4:4-6

Monday [29]: Cynthia Friesen

Thailand

Cynthia is part of the MBMSI Operation 2nd Wave Team (O2W). As she continues to study language and culture, pray that God will give her a deep love for Thai people and culture. Praise God for a new opportunity to minister in a women’s prison along with some of her teammates. Pray that God will use this ministry to point many people to Jesus. Pray that the O2W vision of “Jesus transforming communities through a holistic church planting movement in Phuket and beyond” will happen.

“I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me..” Matt. 25:36

Tuesday [30]: Murray and Faith Nickel

DR Congo

Murray and Faith coordinate ministry projects in DR Congo, including medical ministry, the development of micro-enterprises, and support of the local MB church. Pray that God will continue to guide and lead the church in DR Congo and that God would continue to raise up visionary and godly leaders in this large and important branch of the MB family. Murray and Faith are currently based in Canada and coordinate projects from a distance, with regular visits to DR Congo. Pray for safety, health and energy as they travel, and that the Lord will continue to give Murray and Faith, as well as MBMSI leadership, discernment about the ministries in which they should engage.

“For to the man who pleases Him, God gives wisdom, and knowledge, and joy.” Eccl. 2:26

Lithuania



Religious freedom in the post-Soviet era has stimulated the growth of the Church over the past decade. While there is significant growth, there is also a real shortage of trained Christian leaders. This shortage of leaders, along with religious freedom,

has facilitated the entry of cults and theological error. Solid biblical foundations need to be laid locally. Those leaders who train abroad often do not return, and some who do find themselves out of touch with their home situations.

One of the encouraging developments in Lithuania is Lithuania Christian College, an inter-denominational Christian liberal arts college where MBMS International missionary Melanie Humphreys serves. The aim of this institution is to train godly, well-educated and visionary leaders for Lithuania and other nations in that region.

Please pray:

- for more missionaries to be called to serve in Lithuania.
- for godly leaders to be trained and placed in positions of influence.
- that people will continue to come to personal faith in Jesus, and that they will have opportunities to receive discipleship and mentoring as they grow in their faith.
- for MBMS International missionaries Christoph and Antonia Hagele, Melanie Humphreys, and Ernie and Elfrieda Reimer as they use their gifts to serve the Lithuanian church.

CALL THE OFFICE IN YOUR AREA

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