

Proclaiming the Gospel

## PRAYER GUIDE

## **APRIL 2024**

**PRAY FOR:** Senior Pastor **Josh Moody,** Executive Asst. to Senior Pastor **Carolyn Litfin**—the pastors who will participate in the Workshop on Biblical Exposition, May 8–10; Vision Sunday and the Annual Meeting on May 19; Pastor Josh's travel to Ottawa (Canada) for The Timothy Trust's National Conference, May 27–29, followed by The Timothy Trust's Pacific Refresher, June 3–5; God Centered Life, which continues to expand its media ministry worldwide.

**PRAY FOR: Those experiencing grief or loss:** Philip B, Rich Barrie, Susan Krisch, Wanda Poor, Dan Schroeder, Chad Wiebe, Susie Wing. **Evangelism** and **Cultural Impact Committee** and **chair David Kelley. Daniel** and **Charis**—wisdom as they prepare a workshop about noncommunicable diseases in developing countries that would be useful for healthcare missions work; OMF U.S. personnel on retreat today through April 4; their son, Luke, to grow in his personal relationship with God.

**3** PRAY FOR: Ongoing health needs: Rich Barrie, Brian Bauer, Bert Bunn, John Chase, Shawn DeMoss, Carolyn Denning, Jean Dusek, Cliff Dyhouse, Tyler Ferguson, Sheri Fuller, Fred Godar, Brian Smidesang, Seth Walter. **Missionary health needs:** Steve Dresselhaus, Jim and Nan Green (retired), Elsa Maust, Marjorie Okoro, Muriel Stilwell (retired), Carol Wenninger (retired). **Jeff** and **Jane Pelz**, IVCF, US—Jane as she develops partnerships, that laborers would go, and ministry placements would benefit national movements within the IFES; the Link staff in Asia; Jeff and his team of students to be salt and light at College of DuPage and Waubonsee Community College.

PRAY FOR: Director of Children's Ministries 4 PRAY FOR: Director of Children's Cheryce Berg, ministry associates for children's ministries Sarah Herr, Jennifer Miller and Karin **Tuurie**—families as they register for Summer Crew VBS to pray about and have the courage to invite non-churched friends; Wednesday Kids' Korner, Pioneer Girls and Boys' Brigade programs to finish well and leave a gospel impact on children; volunteers to serve as summer teachers. Admin. Assts. for Children's Ministries Liz Stahler, Suzanne Shirley and Megan Stough. Joshua and Kara Dunckel, ReachGlobal, Hungary—peace in Ukraine and the church to be strengthened; their resident permit renewal process this summer as immigration laws have changed in Hungary: potential new team members for the Strategic Collaboration Team with whom Joshua is in discussion.

**5** PRAY FOR: Midweek Evening Girls Program, Supt. Danika Kelly and leaders—the girls who don't otherwise attend church to continue to come to Pioneer Girls and experience the joy and hope of Christ; God to sustain the leaders through the end of the school year; leaders to connect with the girls each week. **Katherine**, U.S.—her trip to an isolated Middle Eastern country to be part of opening doors for long-term teams; a retreat with Arabic language learners from another isolated country to encourage them and those they are discipling.

PRAY FOR: Men's Gathering this morning.
Midweek Evening Boys Program, Supt.
Terry Van Someren and staff—thank God for the fifty boys involved in Boys' Brigade each week; the Bible study on the armor of God as the school year finishes. Victor and Leslie Trautwein, KA, Dominican Republic—continued passion and perseverance in the daily battles to help vulnerable children; the Lord to continue to grow the expertise of national staff; new missionaries to fill roles in communication, teaching and hosting; additional child sponsors and general financial resources to fuel their life-changing ministries.

Africa International University. Nairobi, Kenya.

**7 PRAY FOR:** Nursery Supt. **Suzy Yoder**, Preschool Bible School Superintendent **Laura Swoboda**, Preschool Children's Church Superintendent **Kristie Smalley** and volunteers and teachers. **Kristiana (and Cory) Miller**, GEM, Europe—Kristiana as she provides a program for teenagers of GEM missionary families at the Eastern Regional Retreat in Bulgaria; God's provision and clarity for Cory and Kristiana as they face major Austrian tax payments this month and are unsure if tax savings and reimbursements from the U.S. will be sufficient for the bill.

PRAY FOR: Elementary Children's Church Supt.
Nancy Chase and Elementary Bible School Supt.
Christina Achziger and teachers—thank God for teachers who serve for the long haul. Todd (and Sue) Kelly, TLI, U.S.—the Lord to give them eyes to see how he is at work; strength to walk confidently and courageously in ministry; the right ministry and financial partners to allow the work to flourish; wisdom to effectively serve the Lord's purposes; praise the Lord for his tender mercy that gives light and guides them in the path of peace.

**PRAY FOR:** Pastor of Worship and Music Erik Dewar and his team, Admin. Asst. for Music Lauren Fortosis. Ministry Associates Ruth Gregornik, Debbie Hollinger, Delena Ollila, H. E. Singley and Robin Wiper—"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!" (Psalm 150:6).

10 PRAY FOR: Junior High Pastor Dan Hiben, ministry associates Josh Bell and Addie Fritz, admin. asst. Trish Main—students to know and experience the joy of the Lord as they finish the school year; wisdom for parents as they navigate the challenges of parenting their teenagers. Midweek Morning Children's Program and Supt. Suzanne Shirley—praise God for the children who hear the gospel each week and for the teachers who serve them; the team as the year finishes and plans are made for next year. Twice Is Nice and STARS Resale shop managers, employees, job coaches and all those who volunteer in the stores and help with donation pick-ups.

PRAY FOR: Josh and Brittany, U.S.—the door to the effective digital ministry to remain open; wisdom in sharing the good news as new restrictions in Asia make it riskier; grace as they raise their family to know and love the Lord. Phil and Ann Baur, Pioneers, U.S.—the Pioneers U.S. board of directors meeting April 25-27; the board to continue to hold fast to the Pioneers mission statement and core values to glorify God by imitating church-planting among unreached people groups; Phil and Ann as they travel next month to Peru, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Dubai; safe travels, strength and good health throughout the trip; them to provide good support and encouragement on their journeys.

12 PRAY FOR: High School Pastor Baxter Helm, ministry associates Bethany Atchison, Jediah Giller and admin. assist. Katie Simpson. Joan (ministry associate), Asia—Joan's friend Helen to give her heart to "Isa," Jesus; Joan as she teaches four students at Abdiel Seminary, majoring in music and

Christian education, to remain committed to the Lord; a place to stay while in Wheaton this summer.

PRAY FOR: the Women's Monthly **Gathering** this morning to encourage women as they follow Christ. Church Recording Secretary Carol Schick. Events Manager Charis Ellis and Wedding Coordinators Ruth Calderone, Alta Johnson, Olivia Johnson, Danika Kelly and Marilyn Papierski—grace as they work with a variety of families. Caleb and Marisa Duttweiler, East Mountain, South Africa—health and financial provision as their second child is due in late June; plans to fall in place for the East Mountain residency program: the Lord's will and provision as East Mountain purchases property; praise God for a preschool that daughter, Zoev. loves and for a new church home for them: God to open up ministry and friendship opportunities in both places.

**14 PRAY FOR: Tim Sattler,** Fellowship of the Word, U.S.—the transition of Fellowship of the Word from under Faith and Learning to an independent nonprofit organization; the partners God is bringing together in Singapore; a core training for pastors interested in Bible exposition; the interest among pastors who already exposit God's Word well and want to grow in their ability to train others; praise God for the growth he has given Fellowship of the Word this past year, with partners in nine countries; financial provision for this work.

PRAY FOR: The Kids' Harbor seminar this evening on Parenting and Technology, that parents would be encouraged and emboldened to disciple their children's hearts in this area. Jim and Kathy Hansen, SIM, U.S./Bolivia—Jim's teaching ministry at the Ethnos 360 Bible Institute to lead his students to a deeper understanding of God's Word and a closer relationship with Christ as they prepare for missionary service; God to guide Jim as he considers invitations to travel and teach God's Word in other countries; Kathy as she serves on the women's committee at their church and seeks to challenge the women of the church to a deeper prayer life.

16 PRAY FOR: Jeremy and Christy Otten, WV, Belgium—energy and rest for Jeremy and Christy and their family as they have a full schedule with their respective ministries and caring for their young children; their relationship with their church as they navigate some heavy and divisive challenges within the congregation; wisdom in knowing what further ministry opportunities to pursue.

- 17 PRAY FOR: Bob and Becky Faber, SV, Bulgaria—their new family counseling graduate program at St. Trivelius, which is meeting a felt need in the Bulgarian church community; their upcoming summer program—volunteers to complete the tasks, scholarships to support needy children and a good reception of VBS in three towns.
- 18 PRAY FOR: Service & Engagement Committee and Chair Katie Nussbaum. John and Esther Waldrop, WV, Philippines—them to raise the remainder of their support by July 15, when they plan to fly to Manila; John and Esther to be prepared spiritually and in every way to be a blessing and encouragement to the staff and students of IGSL and AGST.
- 19 PRAY FOR: God's Children Sing (Sunday evening music program) and Director Sarah Herr. Matt and Lisa Befus, UWM, Costa Rica—growth and depth in staff and students' relationship with God at La Palabra de Vida; praise God for the 330 students in the new school year; wisdom, patience and discernment for them, those they serve and those who supervise them as Matt and Lisa move into a new role as regional leaders for Central America and the Caribbean for their mission agency.
- **20** PRAY FOR: Judy Blumhofer, GH2K, Honduras—the children with whom she works to come to know Jesus and His great love for them, that they might be sensitive to His Spirit and the call of God on their lives; Warrior (her two year old) was sick for nearly a month with an unclear illness, and while he has recovered a lot, he is still not back to normal; her Honduran residency to finally be granted (it has been in the works for over four years now), both Angel's adoption and her medical license are on hold while waiting for residency.
- PRAY FOR: Accounting Manager Dan Bauer—Dan and the accounting office with the work involved with the close of the fiscal year on April 30. Rick and Janice McKinley, MAI(1), NC—their upcoming sports ministry mission trips, two have recently gone out with 13 more to go in 2024; Rick as he leads three teams to Brazil, Honduras and Germany; Marco Díaz, a young father who has served on their Eagles staff, who battled pneumonia during recent chemo treatments for cancer; a full recovery for Matt, and strength for his wife and young son; their two missionaries Zack and Tom, who continue to serve in the war-torn countries of Israel and Ukraine.

- **PRAY FOR: Anita Deyneka**, Missions Associate, ME, U.S.— thank God for Nikolai, A Family for Every Orphan partner in ministry, who leads teams across Ukraine; thank God for its 24-hour hotline to reach out to people in need with the gospel, as well as evacuation and rescue and other humanitarian assistance; Nikolai's March meetings in Washington D.C. with Christian leaders and organizations and U.S. government officials to seek further assistance for Ukraine; Ukrainian churches as they reach out with the gospel and every kind of help for vulnerable families, children and widows. **New Theological College,** Uttarakhand, India.
- **PRAY FOR:** Chairman of the Council of Elders Howard Costley, Vice Chair Brian Wildman and Secretary Jeremy Taylor—the elders as they prepare for the Annual Meeting by setting the agenda, reviewing a proposed church budget and holding informational meetings.
- **24** PRAY FOR: Elders David Bea, Mark Berg, Mark Bradley, Steve Ivester and Glenn Kosirog —the three elder nominees on the slate to be voted on at the Annual Meeting; the Lord to grant them wisdom as they join the nine continuing elders and become familiar with elder policies and current issues under discussion.
- 25 PRAY FOR: Elders Jeff Oslund, Roger Sandberg, David Setran and Chad Thorson—the elders as they work with staff on the completion of the 2024 goals of the five initiatives: Pathway, Community, Discipleship, Campus and Planting. Kyle (and Dariana) Bradley, GO Ministries, Dominican Republic—the kids who connected with GO to be drawn to the love of Jesus and come to saving faith in him; Kyle and Dariana as they serve and bring up their children in the love of the Lord.
- **26** PRAY FOR: Homebound and care centers: Dorothy Anderson, Vivian Borrink, Ruth Comfield, Patty Edmonds, Julia King, Marve Mayer, Ed Selander, Evey Setran, Lillian Smith, Tony Zalar, Forest Zander. **Tyrannus Bible College,** Jawa Barat, Indonesia.
- **27** PRAY FOR: John and Vivi Wickberg, Missions Associates, WBT, NC—new ministry opportunities as they meet their new neighbors; wisdom for the Paratext 9 team in selecting the most important requests since there is more work than their small team can handle; the Platform Bible team as it continues to fine-tune the technology choices for the Paratext rewrite.

PRAY FOR: Giles and Debbie Davis, SEND, Spain. Children's choir director Debbie Hollinger and her team: Lea Lamb, Brad Warren and Pam Whittles—thank God for the weekly army of faithful volunteers; the hearts of the children to move closer to Jesus as they sing biblical truths and Scripture in their songs; those attending the spring musical concert on May 5, especially those who don't yet know Jesus, to hear the gospel clearly.

**29 PRAY FOR: Jane, U.S.**— perseverance and joy as she supports an increasing number of workers in Asia; times of rest and recovery amidst the many international trips she takes.

**30** PRAY FOR: President Joe Biden, Vice-President Kamala Harris and administration. The U.S. Senate and Senators Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin. The U.S. House of Representatives, Speaker Mike Johnson and Representatives Sean Casten (Dist. 6), Bill Foster (Dist. 11) and Lauren Underwood (Dist. 14).

## MISSION ACRONYMS:

**GEM**—Greater Europe Mission

GH2K-Give Hope to Kids

**IFES**—International Fellowship of Evangelical Students

**IGSL**—International Graduate School of Leadership

IVCF—InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

**KA**-Kids Alive

**MAI(1)**—Missionary Athletes International

**ME**—Mission Eurasia

**SV**—Salt Ventures

**TLI**—Training Leaders International

**UWM**—United World Mission

**WBT**—Wycliffe Bible Translators

WV-WorldVenture

## PRAYER CALENDAR COMPILER:

WANDA POOR



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