



# College Church

Proclaiming the Gospel

## PRAYER GUIDE DECEMBER 2024

**1 PRAY FOR:** Pastor of Discipleship **Josh Maurer** and Admin. Asst. for Discipleship Ministries **Mary DeMoss**—thank God for ministry associates **Gary Cook** and **James Seward** who work with small groups and Adult Communities, respectively. **Curt** and **Karen Cole**, Avant Ministries, U.S.—nine new Latino members of Avant, three of whom were appointed in November through the mobilization office in Guatemala and are headed to Europe to work with refugees and to India and SE Asia to plant churches; Karen as she coaches new missionaries with children on educational planning and options; Curt and Karen as they serve and influence their six grandchildren, with three in SE Asia, and the other three 15 minutes away in Kansas City.

**2 PRAY FOR: Those experiencing grief or loss:** Bill Anderson, Mark Bodett, Lois Dresselhaus, Kathy Duttweiler, Caleb Duttweiler, Jeff Hershberger, Alma John Kuruppacherry, Emmi Ritter, that they would sense God's nearness and love at Christmas. **Greg** and **Debby Nichols**, GEM, Czech Republic—an end to the war in Ukraine; Andre and the Ukrainian Bible Church in Prague; the church's Christmas outreach in mid-December.

**3 PRAY FOR: Ongoing health needs:** Mary Atkison, Brian Bauer, Tony Belgio, Laura Billsten, Gary Brunette, Bert Bunn, Sirene Christman, Liz Cook, Shawn DeMoss, Dick Duncan, Jean Dusek, John and Gerda Dykstra, Barb Eisenheimer, Tyler Ferguson, Sheri Fuller, Kristin Garrett, Rob Gibson, Andrea Hanna, Wini Hoffner, Joanne Hollatz, Elizabeth Jones, Vivien Pehrson, Janel Prichard, Diane Ruiz, Raynie Smith, David Talbot, Nancy Tally, Seth Walter. **Missionary health needs:** Ann Baur, Jim and Nan Green (retired), Muriel Stilwell (retired). **Michael Walker** (mid-term 2026), TCCL, UK. **Melissa Warner**, Thailand—those whose homes were flooded twice in three weeks; the

students, parents and teachers deeply affected by the death of a 17-year-old in the international community; praise God for friends and coworkers who supported Melissa during the floods in practical and personal ways; thank God that she and her family will be together for Christmas in Vienna, Austria. **Hanoi Bible College**, Vietnam.

**4 PRAY FOR:** those in **Grace Groups** to experience mental and emotional resilience at Christmas. **Mike** and **Carol Beth**, Asia—wisdom to encourage and support the families under their care throughout Asia as well as their stateside member care responsibilities; wisdom, grace and strength to help care for Mike's brother and father in the midst of terminal illnesses (Mike's father is now in hospice care); Mike and Carol Beth to abide in Christ and bear fruit for his kingdom and glory. **WOL Bible Seminary**, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

**5 PRAY FOR:** **Karen Bradley**, WBT, U.S.—her students as they begin new translation projects in Madagascar; the Lord's gentle guidance for her and her family; thank the Lord for a new teacher joining their team to teach English to international Bible translators.

**6 PRAY FOR:** **Jim** and **Lynette Hatcher**, GEM, Austria—a Christmas outreach event at their church in Vienna on December 13); them as they feel far away from two of Jim's siblings who are battling cancer—one in Texas, one in California; two men considering leadership roles in their church as they meet with Jim to talk about their contribution to God's purpose in the church.

**7 PRAY FOR:** **The Women's Monthly Gathering** this morning and its look at the I AM statements of Jesus. The **men's breakfast** this morning as men connect with each other over God's Word. **Steve** and **Mirian Cox**, WOL, Brazil. **Jonatán** and **Teresa Simons**, SIM, Colombia. **Scott** and **Jenny Hawkins**, ISI, NC (missions associates)— Scott and his Zoom meetings with Mustafa in Germany; the Spirit to bring new life to Mustafa; laborers to the 11,000+ international students in Raleigh-Durham, where fields are white to harvest; the rebuilding of infrastructure and businesses in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene; a significant moving of God to draw people to true faith.

**8 PRAY FOR:** The combined children's, students and adult choral program this evening, "On This Day: Celebrating the Coming of Jesus—Past & Future." **Brian** and **Warrie Blackburn**, Mercy Ships, U.S.— the effective ministries of the Global Mercy in Sierra Leone and the Africa Mercy in Madagascar; additional volunteers, especially medical volunteers to serve on the ships in 2025; their family—the girls' development

of their unique identities and what the Lord is calling them to do after high school (should graduate in 2025); wisdom for Brian and Warrie in parenting.

**9 PRAY FOR: Outreach Carol Stream**—the Christmas Store on December 14 to be an encouragement to the parents and grandparents who will shop the store. **Tim**, N. Africa. **Jim** and **Julianna Gieser**, Student YMCA, South Africa—their hope to build a residence hall with 30-50 places for full-time residence life staff, dedicated to the holistic growth of students; pray this verse: may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 15:13); a few new financial supporters in the new year.

**10 PRAY FOR:** Pastors of Visitation **Bruce Main** and **Roger Burgess**, Women's Ministry Associates for Care **Joan Engeseth** and **Barb DeLew**. Admin. Asst. of Congregational Care **Christy Chiodras**—wisdom in caring for the needs of our senior saints. The **Hospitality Committee** and chair **Shirley Sheppard**—thank God for the graciousness of this committee. **Sara** and **Manu Klopfenstein**, YFC, France—intentional interactions with singers and their families; the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of audiences as the choirs sing about the good news of Jesus' birth.

**11 PRAY FOR: Mom2Mom**—moms with young children to find time to treasure the wonder of Christmas in the middle of the busy season. **Dan** and **Beth L**, SIM, U.S.—Dan's chaplain trip to Nigeria (December 30-January 12); Beth and the weight of caring for her mother, Muriel Stillwell, now 95; thank God for a good weekly rhythm and support; Beth to be able to have longer breaks from caretaking; Dan and his decision, after four years of heavy and exhausting travel, to focus on Zoom connections with missionaries and direct support of the nearby SIM offices and less international travel.

**12 PRAY FOR: Church family serving in the military**—Andrew Aldridge, David Curlin, David Elsen, Hannah English, Wesley Hanna, Oliver Hsu, Derek Johanik, Jake and Tiffany Johanik, Peter Johanik, Ben Lemp, Christopher Martis, Howard Mill, Rachel Patrick, Sarah Powell, John Stough, David Tebbe, Luca Warren, Joshua Wiltgen, Douglas Yates. **Chad** and **Leanna Wiebe**, SEND, Ukraine. **Jeff** and **Marilyn**, Asia—wisdom and discernment regarding heightened security concerns; continued protection over the Scripture audio players and trauma healing ministries; the translation of the strengthening Christian family curriculum; praise for good blood test results from Jeff's follow up of his thyroid surgery.

**13 PRAY FOR: Thad** and **Joy McAuley**, GEM, U.S.—the school community where Joy teaches French as they mourn the sudden death of a student; praise God for the collaborative outreach during the 2024 Paris Olympics; the ongoing work being carried out by French churches and mission groups; thank God for new opportunities for GEM and the resources for them; the six newly trained GEM missionaries from four countries. **Women’s** and **men’s Bible Studies**—praise God for a great fall semester as both men and women studied the Book of Philippians.

**14 PRAY FOR: Mihai** and **Tamara Lundell**, OCI, Italy—Tammy at Revive Europe youth conference this month; participants to respond to God’s call to mission in their universities and communities; their church’s Christmas party and worship celebration on December 15; many to discover Immanuel, God with us; praise God for this year of serving as leaders in ministry: Mihai locally in their church and globally in member care and Tammy as Europe director for One Challenge; God’s faithful and generous care for them. God’s faithfulness and generosity in His care for them. **Center for Applied Christian Ethics**, Wheaton. **Daniel**, Forman Christian College, Pakistan Rector Addleton and the FCCU leadership as they lead and steward the chartered university this school year; peace to continue to cover this uniquely diverse student body as they learn together in the classroom, on the sports fields, and in their personal lives. **Trivelius Institute**, Sofia, Bulgaria.

**15 PRAY FOR:** the STARS Christmas program “Investigation: Christmas” this evening; the STARS to lift up Jesus as they perform; families and friends to discover the newborn king. **STARS Family Services (SFS)**. **STAMP Thailand** (Dec. 28-Jan 6)—the team as members prepare lesson plans and fun activities to serve missionary kids at Camp Sanook (Camp Fun); meaningful engagement with the kids and for parents to be encouraged and refreshed at their annual conference. **Nathan** and **Vera Beck**, GEM, Czech Republic.

**16 PRAY FOR: College Group**—students as final exams begin; thank God for After Hours with its strong teaching. Pastor **Curt Miller**, Missions Administrative Assistant **Kathy Bailey**, Missions Coordinator **Marilyn Papierski**, Ministry Associate **Heather Wiggins**—the message of the recent festival would continue to stir individuals to consider how they can become involved in missions, whether to pray, give and/or go; the ministries and missionaries to be bright

lights in a dark world; perseverance and faithfulness to what God has called them.

**17 PRAY FOR: Board of Missions** and Chair **Dave Oster, Charley** and **Cheryl Warner**, Barnabas, Ukraine—Ukrainian missionaries around the world and the member care team the Warners are mentoring; a just end to the war in Ukraine; praise God for good discussions in three Bible studies they lead; for those in the study who are not yet believers.

**18 PRAY FOR: Paul, GTN**, U.S.—the planning for upcoming workshops; the Lord to give wisdom to know where pastors and leaders need to develop the most; thank God for fruitful workshops with pastors and church leaders in East Asia and Sri Lanka the past two months; those they worked with were encouraged and they saw them grow in their skills of handling God's Word.

**19 PRAY FOR: Missions Treasurer Linda Wahr, Stephen** and **Karis Rigby**, Serge, Kenya—wisdom as team members see doors open to work within the S-mii community and other unreached people groups using chronological Bible and sonship storying; their Serge team to have a sense of gospel renewal and cultural humility in their work with rural pastors, football coaches and schools; deep discipleship within the church in Kenya and East Africa; Stephen and Karis to be imitators of God, especially with their children, that they would be quick to listen, slow to anger, full of grace and abounding in love.

**20 PRAY FOR:** the women's retreat committee as they plan the February 21-23, 2025, retreat in Deerfield; women to register. **Hope Fellowship Church** (fourth church plant in Lombard), Pastor **Eric Channing** and the congregation. **Emmanuel** and **Adugna Tahear**, SIM, U.S.

**21 PRAY FOR: Small Groups** and leaders—small groups to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. The **Sanctity of Human Life Task Force** and **Caring Network**—vulnerable mothers and children to discover Christmas joy in Jesus.

**22 PRAY FOR: Greg** and **Faith Hurst**, SIM, Bolivia—Faith as she begins plans for a retreat for church-planting women in August 2025; God to guide Faith as she selects women from different Bolivian cities and works with a small leadership team; Greg as a team leader with SIM, directing the City to City church-planting initiative in Bolivia; them as they care for continued medical challenges for one of their daughters, and Greg as he cares for his mom with dementia.

**23 PRAY FOR: Holy Trinity Church** (Chicago) and Pastors **Jon Dennis** and **Kyle Edwards** (downtown and northside respectively) and congregations. **South Asian Friendship Center. Jake** and **Honah Finn**, OMS, Thailand. **John** and **Pam**, Africa—two missionary women and five Chadian women who attended an ENTRUST training in Kenya last month to pass on what they learned; God to guide in knowing the best formats to help women in local churches to grow deeper into his Word; a replacement for John and Pam as hosts at the Retreat once they retire; John to complete Farm Center buildings as the weather cooperates; God to use it for training in farming his way and as a place of refuge for those who suffer for Jesus' sake.

**24 PRAY FOR:** The three services this evening as we welcome Christmas morning.

**25 MERRY CHRISTMAS. "FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD."**

**26 PRAY FOR: Living Hope** (formerly Christ the King Church, second church plant in Aurora), Pastor **Ken Carr** and the congregation. **Jon** and **Kathy Haley**, WV, U.S.— comfort for the people of Valencia, some who have lost loved ones (200+ dead) in the severe flooding; politicians as they address the unrest that has followed; people to turn their eyes to him who controls the weather and their lives; Jon and his students as the fall quarter ends; students to experience increased joy in God's Word as they process practical aspects of biblical interpretation; the details of the biblical communication class Jon is revising for the winter quarter; this class to continue to train leaders to be effective students and communicators of God's Word.

**27 PRAY FOR: Robbie** and **Lauren Becker**, ECA, Asia—financial provision for the \$14,000 needed for their training before May 1; wisdom and God's direction when they return to Colombia in July; the church in Colombia, and that God would begin to transform the country from a missions field to a missions force. **Rod** and **Kathy Duttweiler**, EM, U.S.—the work of East Mountain in South Africa as they finalize resident selection for their programs in 2025; Ode in Mali and Alberto in Gambia as they launch church-based discipleship groups with ASDM; family who traveled to celebrate Kathy's father's memorial service this month.

**28 PRAY FOR: New Covenant Church** (church plant in Naperville), Senior Pastor **Chris Castaldo. José Pablo** and **Jane Sanchez**, Decisión/

OCI, Spain. **Jake** and **Honah Finn**, OMS, Thailand—their boys were hospitalized for about a week with walking pneumonia; their lungs to continue to heal and for protection over the rest of them.

**29 PRAY FOR:** Director of Communications **Wil Triggs** and Creative Communications Coordinator **Kathryn McBride**. Pastoral Residents **Felipe Chamy**. Pastoral Residents **Tate Fritz** and **Matt Heaton**—thank God for our residents who are learning as they serve the church.

**30 PRAY FOR:** **Dick Albright**, TLI, Wheaton—pastors in Sierra Leone and Ethiopia to apply the training they received this year to their preaching and teaching; them to pass on what they learned to their fellow pastors; the church in Africa to be strengthened through the faithful preaching of God’s Word; several new training groups scheduled to begin in Southwest Asia next year; wisdom as Dick prepares his teaching schedule for next year.

**31 PRAY FOR:** **Stephen** and **Teri Pardue**, TeachBeyond, Philippines—senior leaders from around the region who are finishing their first courses in the ThM Program, especially for Dipendra from Nepal and Mawi from Papua New Guinea, key leaders facing real challenges in their home ministry contexts; the preschoolers in Teri’s classes to experience Jesus’ love; positive and growing relationships with their international and national teammates in order to work effectively for the advancement of the gospel.

---

#### MISSION ACRONYMS:

<b>GEM</b> —Greater Europe Mission	<b>TCCL</b> —Trinity Church Central London
<b>ECA</b> —El Camino Academy	<b>TLI</b> —Training Leaders International
<b>EM</b> —East Mountain Leadership Development	<b>WBT</b> —Wycliffe Bible Translators
<b>GTN</b> —Global Training Network	<b>WOL</b> —Word of Life
<b>ISI</b> —International Students, Inc.	<b>WV</b> —WorldVenture
<b>OCI</b> —One Challenge International	<b>YFC</b> —Youth For Christ
<b>OMS</b> —One Mission Society	

#### PRAYER CALENDAR COMPILER:

WANDA POOR



College Church

Proclaiming the Gospel