



cbf.net/pray

Prayer Associates

February 2024

The following prayer requests are from CBF field personnel who are being the presence of Christ around the world. As a “prayer associate” committed to praying for CBF missions and ministries on a regular basis, you are a partner, colleague and companion. Thank you for giving this kind of support.

To think about:

“Faithful discernment in decision making is seldom an individual enterprise. More often than not, the Holy Spirit guides us through both our own thinking and the feelings it generates, as well as through the insights that come from others.”

-Trevor Hudson, Holy Spirit Here and Now

Elket Rodriguez, Migrant and Refugee Ministry, US-Mexico Border

Please pray for the reduction of the demonization of migrants and refugees in public discourse.

Pray for US lawmakers to be guided in passing serious, sensitive, and sensible policies addressing the needs of both the country and migrants at the Mexico-US border.

Pray for a shift from fear-driven rhetoric to compassion in discussions about migration.

Kirk and Suzie, Bible Literacy and Translation, Southeast Asia

We would appreciate prayer for the remaining two months of our time in the USA, visiting friends, family and churches, as well as for our return to Southeast Asia in mid-March. We are very thankful for the opportunity to share what God is doing and look forward to resuming our work on the field.

Rick Burnette, Agricultural Development Ministry, Immokalee, FL

We are so grateful for ongoing Encourager Church partnerships with FBC Pendleton, SC, Crescent Hill Baptist in Louisville, Trinity Baptist of Seneca, SC, and First Baptist of St. Petersburg, FL, especially for the prayers, support, and hands-on involvement during 2023.

We are grateful for all that was shared, especially joy, during the Misión Peniel Christmas event on December 15. 501 Immokalee farmworker community neighbors received food, with several hundred children receiving Christmas presents.

We are so grateful for the involvement of teams from Crescent Hill Baptist (Louisville, KY) and Trinity Baptist (Seneca, SC) in January to help move the Primera Church project forward and to assist with the ministries of Cultivate Abundance and Misión Peniel.

My trip to Chiapas, Mexico in January was very eye opening and inspirational. We're grateful for the Seminario Intercultural Mayense team, based in San Cristobal de las Casas, that hosted the visit of our small Global Missions group, allowing us to have opportunities to see, learn, and reflect on the Mayan culture, rural livelihoods, the role of the local church, and ongoing challenges.

Pray for the dozens of food-producing partners and donors in southwest Florida, especially within Immokalee, who share from their abundance to help address farmworker food insecurity.

We are so grateful for our main partner, Misión Peniel. Please pray for ongoing conversation and future decisions related to its future.

Thank you for ongoing prayers for Joe Holley, Ellen's dad.

Kim and Marc Wyatt, Welcome House for Refugees, Raleigh, NC

Celebrate with us as Rev. Lydia Tatum begins her first month as Welcome House Raleigh and CBFNC Welcome Network Director. Pray for wisdom and clarity as she brings her many gifts and her servant heart to this ministry of welcome and presence.

Multiple families have recently moved into their permanent homes after time at Welcome House Raleigh. Please pray for families from Afghanistan and Congo as they make home after many years of instability. Pray as children attend school, parents begin jobs, and all begin to make new friends. Pray that they will experience "God with us" as they begin again.

Pray for several new volunteers that are beginning to offer friendship to guests of Welcome House. Pray that the volunteers will be able to forego the initial discomfort of language and cultural barriers to see the person made in God's image that is in front of them.

Pray for M that she will find belonging within herself and among friends. Pray for the connection that she has with her ESL teacher that God's light will flow in this friendship.

Praise God for the increase in students in the in-person ESL classes. Opportunities abound - Pray for volunteers!

Lita and Rick Sample, Immigrant and Refugee Ministry, San Francisco Bay Area, CA

Please pray for the 50+ Afghan families that came to our Afghan Christmas party. Most of these families are Muslim, and at the party they heard the story of Jesus' birth. Please pray for our Afghan church as we work together to follow up with them.

Please pray for the Farzeen family from Afghanistan. There are three brothers, each with wives and children. All three families are new to our area in the past year. The children are working hard in school; the men are working hard in their jobs. Please pray for this extended family to be successful in America and most of all for them to respond to God's call on their lives.

Please pray for Rick's inter-faith dialogue work. Since the war in Israel and Gaza erupted a few months ago, Jews and the Muslims in the group have been at odds, with harsh things being said and hurt feelings all around. Pray for Rick to continue to be a voice of kindness and compassion.

Christine, Migrant and Refugee Ministry, Africa/Middle East

Pray for a just solution to the ongoing conflict in Palestine and Israel.

Pray for the families who live in constant fear, for the families who bury loved ones, one after another.

Pray for the children whose futures will continue to be affected by this war long after the fighting has ended.

Karen Morrow, Internationals and Refugee Ministry, Ft. Worth, TX

Thank God that Z, a Muslim friend, has been reading the Bible and believes Jesus is true. She recently asked a Christian friend if she would teach Z and her husband more about Jesus. Pray for time to meet together, and that Z and her husband would

become Christ followers.

Pray for new families to join the Ready for School program and the women's Healthy Hearts and Homes group. Several of our key families have moved these past months, pray for new leadership within this refugee community to develop.

Pray for the development of a parenting program designed to strengthen refugee families. Pray for those involved in listening sessions as well as those who will be using the responses to design programs specific to the varying refugee and marginal groups.

Alicia and Jeff Lee, Agricultural and Family Ministries, Skopje, Macedonia

Please continue to pray for the transition of the farm. We are excited about the future and how God will bless others through its ongoing work and teachers. Please continue to pray for our friend who is recovering from a major medical episode and is currently unable to work.

Scarlette Jasper, Rural Poverty and Family Ministries, Corbin, KY

Please pray for those who are unsheltered in the cold. Those who are struggling with food insecurity. Those who are struggling with or recovering from addiction. Those who are suffering from anxiety, depression, trauma, and grief. Those who are struggling with a health crisis such as cancer. Please specifically pray for EL, WF, EC, BSJ, MV, LM, MF, BW, RJ among many others.

Dianne McNary, Offering for Global Missions Advocate, CBF Global

Praise for gifts to the Offering for Global Missions which provides salary, benefits, and housing for our field personnel around the world.

Pray for an increase in contributions from churches and individuals to the Offering for Global Missions.

Pray for members of CBF's Middle East-Africa field personnel as they minister in their fields.

Matt and Michelle Norman, Immigrant and Refugee Ministry, Barcelona, Spain

Pray for us as we "relaunch" the Mosaic ministry this month. Pray that people with questions about faith will be drawn to Mosaic and experience the love and grace of God.

Pray for our two adult children in university and graduate school in the US.

Anna Anderson, Rural Poverty Initiative for Eastern NC, Rocky Mount, NC

Thank you for your continued prayers for Welcome House Conetoe. We have a new family who is living in the house as of December 1. They are very excited to have this local place so near where they work. They even asked if we minded if they planted flowers there! They are so eager to make it a home for themselves. We are very pleased that they are living there.

Thank you for praying for the ongoing work of our GSC workers, Woody and Bev Baker. God is opening new doors for them every month it seems, and we are so excited to walk alongside them in this ministry. Please continue to pray for the right contacts to be made and the connections to work for them as they seek God's direction in all they are doing.

Please pray for the upcoming meeting at The Conetoe Family Life Center and for direction about how a Strengthening Families program might take shape there. We're eager to explore more how God will use this for good in this community.

Brittany, Migrant and Internationals Ministry, Asia

Please pray for our family as we prepare to return to the field this year. Pray as we connect with ministry partners in Asia and finalize plans regarding visas and our children's schooling. Pray for us as we connect with churches and partners stateside to fundraise and share about the ministry we will be a part of among overseas Chinese in Asia.

Janée Angel, Outreach to Arabic Speakers, Antwerp, Belgium

Praise God that three of the four families that we have been praying for received their residency papers. We have 24 students enrolled and thriving in discipleship school. They are Arabic speakers coming from all over Belgium. Together we have five church starts or Bible studies going in five different cities. And we had over 150 people join us in a Christmas celebration and dinner. We pray for these things to multiply and grow in 2024!

Mary VanRheenen, Resource Coordination for Romany Ministries, Europe

Praise: Completion of Jesus Film recording by Keith Holmes in Lipovan, a Russian dialect spoken by very conservative Orthodox believers in the Danube River delta. Pray that the distribution will touch many hearts in their heart language.

Praise: One of partners in Moldova, Olesea Ciocina, will be starting a FUNdament club (<https://davar-education.eu/>) for Romany mothers with small children in February. Pray for guidance and that the women God has in mind will respond and come.

Prayer request: Domari-speaking Gypsies in Gaza. Mary VanRheenen serves on the board of the Dom Research Center (DRC). The DRC helps support the orphaned street children, fostered by a Domari pastor and his wife. The entire family is now living in the street. Many other Domari are dead or missing; most are now homeless. The DRC has been arranging relief for this often overlooked group of people. Pray for peace and adequate relief followed by adequate rebuilding of lives and communities.

Chaouki and Maha Boulos, Leadership Training and Refugee Aid, Beirut, Lebanon

Prayers for peace in the Middle East. Prayers for our safe return to Lebanon mid-January.

Karen, Pastoral Ministries with Refugees and Immigrants, Northern Africa

Karen's church ministry that serves migrants and refugees in distress is currently very short-staffed. Pray for Karen as she shoulders an above-average load of responsibility in the next few months, and for all the administrative and pastoral tasks that are ahead for her and her church teams.

Karen Alford, Community/Medical Development, Vogan, Togo, West Africa

Please pray for the conflict in Gaza and Ukraine, the earthquake in Japan and so many other natural and human-made disasters happening in the world. Pray for our fledgling community health program that it continue to grow and impact the village. Pray for me buying land to build a house as the house I am in is not structurally safe.

Global Missions Staff (Laura Ayala, Dianne McNary, Caroline LeGrand, Ellen Sechrest, Javier Pérez, Lindsy Hines, Zulma Zabala, Renée Owen, Carrol Wilson)

Join us in praying for our spring mission emphasis for the Offering for Global Missions. Pray for our team as we plan and dream together. Pray for us as we travel and speak in churches.

February Birthday Calendar

(CH)- Chaplain; (FP)- Missions field personnel; (GSC)- Global Service Corps; (PC)- Pastoral counselor; (FPC)- Child of field personnel; (S)- CBF staff member

- 1 Tammy Snyder (S-Florida/Caribbean Islands)
- 1 Susan Collins, Stone Mountain, GA (CH)
- 1 Brad Jackson, Springfield, OH (CH)
- 2 Lauren Lamb (S-CBF Global)
- 2 Joe Alverson, Nicholasville, KY (CH)
- 2 Veronica Martinez-Gallegos, Concord, NC (CH)
- 2 Terry Tatro, Louisville, KY (CH)
- 3 Richard Dayringer, Grove, OK (PC)
- 3 Rachel Erickson (CH)
- 3 Woody Baker, Ahoskie, NC (GSC)
- 4 Jane Martin, Emeritus (FP)
- 4 Delores Kay Smith, Hickory, NC (CH)
- 5 Rubén Ortiz (S-CBF Global)
- 5 Andrew Bowles, Fort Worth, TX (CH)
- 5 Brian Cleveland, New Orleans, LA (CH)

5 Joanna Tarr, Kansas City, MO (CH)
8 John Boyles, Lynchburg, VA (CH)
8 Biju Chacko, Jacksonville, FL (CH)
8 Larry Johnson, Midlothian, VA (CH)
9 Shaquisha Barnes, Durham, NC (CH)
9 Nathan Cooper, Greenville, SC (CH)
9 Jo Kirkendall, Biloxi, MS (CH)
9 Elizabeth Milazzotto, Louisville, KY (PC)
9 Willie Smith, Fredericksburg, VA (CH)
10 Bradley Chahoy, Colorado Springs, CO (CH)
10 James Rentz, Spartanburg, SC (PC)
10 Cynthia Thomas, Houston, TX (CH)
11 Lauralee Estes, Northport, AL (PC)
11 Katee Harris, Rose Hill, NC (CH)
11 Will Runyon, Albany, GA (CH)
11 Jamie Ambrose (S-Alabama)
11 Ashley Mangrum, Boston, MA (CH)
12 James (Terry) Raines Richmond, VA (CH)
13 David Fox, Roanoke, VA (CH)
13 Dianne Swaim, North Little Rock, AR (CH)
14 Roger Bolton, Conyers, GA (PC)
14 Grace Martino (S-Northeast/CBF Global)
14 Charla Littell, Burlington, NC (CH)
15 Michon McCorkle, Carmel, IN (PC)
16 Rebecca Hewitt-Newson, Glendale, CA (CH)
16 Brad Mitchell, Birmingham, AL (CH)
16 Carter Sapp, Houston, TX (CH)
17 Annie Laura Walker, Birmingham, AL (CH)
18 Edward Fleming, Winston-Salem, NC (CH)
18 George Nytes, McCord, WA (CH)
18 Jean Pruett, Charlotte, NC (CH)
19 Leah Ryan, New Castle, VA (CH)
20 Amanda Ducksworth, Salt Lake City, UT (CH)
20 Younsoo Park, Fort Drum, NY (CH)
21 Ellen Sechrest (S-CBF Global)
21 Rebecca Church, Louisville, KY (CH)
21 Linda McComb, Clinton, MS (CH)
21 Jeffery Thompson, Gainesville, GA (CH)
21 Stephanie Patterson, New Castle, NC (CH)
21 Cindy Adair Inman, Spartanburg, SC (CH)
22 Stephanie McLeskey, Mars Hill, NC (CH)
23 Michelle Robinson, Columbia, SC (CH)
24 Edwin Badillo, Levittown, Puerto Rico (CH)
24 Danny Tomlinson, Belton, TX (CH)
25 Lindell Anderson, Fort Worth, TX (CH)
25 Rick Foster, Lynchburg, VA (CH)
26 Christa Chappelle, High Point, NC (CH)
26 Rodney Craggs, Louisville, KY (CH)
26 Sheryl Johnson, Richmond, VA (CH)
26 Louise Mason, Richmond, VA (CH)

26 Kimberly Reid, Kaneohe, HI (CH)
27 Linda Moore, Greenville, NC (CH)
28 Amanda Adams, Jeffersonville, IN (CH)