October 2025

The following prayer requests are from CBF field personnel who are 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 your support.

To think about:

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless"

-Mother Theresa

Karen Zimmerman, University Student Ministry, Waco, TX

Pray for the student leadership team of the Open Table ministry as they juggle lots of responsibilities and navigate complex layers of change. Pray for me to find a church congregation to call home in my new city. Pray for me as I build a new community of friends and colleagues in my new ministry setting.

Matt and Michelle Norman, Senior Directors of Field Ministry and Leadership Development, Barcelona, Spain

Pray for Mosaic as it restarts after a pause in regular meetings.
Pray for many who are struggling financially amidst rising prices.
Pray for Mamáventura as it begins its new course this month. Pray that the mothers will find a place of deep connection and support.
Pray for the urban garden which is getting underway. Give thanks with us for Church of the Redeemer Baptist Church in Sabadell for hosting the garden on their property.

Janée Angel, Outreach to Arabic Speakers, Antwerp, Belgium

Please pray for the Arabic speaking church, House of Hope, in Belgium.
We are so grateful to announce that we just had a baptism service at the end of August and baptized 11 people, including our oldest daughter.
Please pray that the church will be encouraged, strengthen and then be able to be the light among Arabic speakers here.

Kirk and Suzie, Translation and Literacy Ministry, Southeast Asia

Dear Lord, we lift up the thousands of believers from the Middle East who have fled as asylum seekers to several countries in Southeast Asia. We

weep with them as they mourn the loss of opportunity to be resettled in the United States. We pray for them as they face police harassment and other forms of exploitation in Southeast Asia, where they are illegal and unwanted, despised for their physical appearance. Bless the ministries reaching out to them in these difficult times--and please provide places of safe haven somewhere, somehow.

Please pray for a young B woman who recently had heart surgery. She and her family are believers, with a brother-in-law involved in the B translation process. Please pray as well for an experiment in using AI trained on the B New Testament, 200 locally authored folktales and a dictionary 20 years in the making (almost finished!) to generate Old Testament portions. We would also appreciate prayer for travelling mercies as we will be living out of a suitcase for much of the next two months!

Jessica Hearne, Urban Farm and Food Advocacy Ministry, Danville, VA

Pray for our Urban Farm leaders as we wrap up our growing season and seek to put the land to rest this month.
Praise and prayer for W., who experienced a house fire last month. Praise that he was not home and was uninjured, but he lost everything in his bedroom and had smoke damage on items in other rooms.
Pray for T, who is looking for a more stable job.
Pray for U, who may have to have surgery soon.
Pray for all of the families in our neighborhoods and around the country, but especially T., B., R., and S., who are being heavily impacted by the rising cost of groceries, rent, and utilities.

Lita and Rick Sample, Ministry Among Internationals, San Francisco Bay Area, CA

Last month there was a devastating earthquake in Afghanistan. We have heard from numerous Afghans in our city who have had relatives impacted by that devastation. Please pray for their recovery and rebuilding after the earthquake.

On October 18th, we will conduct our annual Afghan Community Harvest Festival in partnership with our Afghan church. Please pray for our volunteers as they prepare activities. Pray for First Baptist Church, Tahoe City, California, as their volunteer team prepares to come serve. Pray for our publicity and invitations to reach Afghan families in our community and that they will come to this ministry event. Pray that the kids will have a lot of fun at this church event and that they will equate good feelings at this fun time with positivity towards Christianity.

Rick Burnette, Immigrant Farmworker Ministry, Immokalee, FL

Pray for the Immokalee farmworker community as residents are highly vulnerable to unjust treatment as a result of the national mass deportation policy. Pray for local nonprofits and ministry partners in Immokalee who continue to monitor the mistreatment of persons being detained.

Pray for vulnerable Florida coastal communities during the remainder of the 2025 hurricane season.

A sustained presence of law enforcement officials (e.g., ICE, local sheriff's department, Highway Patrol, border police, Fish and Wildlife Commission) in Immokalee, LaBelle, and many other southwest Florida communities continues, resulting in stops, detentions, and arrests. Even those with visas and work permits are being affected, also contributing to widespread anxiety and trauma. These heavy-handed tactics often result in residents being afraid to go to the market and work, creating additional food insecurity.

Our coworker, a single mom who cares for her young son with significant disabilities, has a Zoom meeting at her lawyer's office on October 3rd to set the schedule for later court dates related to her legal residency. This Zoom meeting will help prevent her from being detained that day. However, future court dates may increase such risk. We continue to ask for prayers, especially efforts to organize her documents, for the competency of her lawyer, and for the just mercy of officials.

We are grateful for the recent involvement of Henry and Jim from FBC Carollton, GA to deliver a shower trailer from the Florida Panhandle to a new staging location at Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana

in LaBelle, FL. We enjoyed Jim and Henry's visit and appreciate their interest in our team's ministry.

We're especially grateful for the donation of the shower trailer from CBF Disaster Response for use in southwest Florida and beyond as needed.

Carson and Laura Foushee, Ministry to Internationals, Kanazawa, Japan

Pray for a student ministry that begun in September at Kanazawa International Baptist Church. This English-speaking community at Kanazawa Baptist Church features a small group of multinational students from junior high to college ages who have been seeking a way to grow together in their student lives. Pray for young members who are experiencing the difficulties of bullying. Pray that they may know they are loved by God no matter the difficulties they face and that they have a church family that cares for them amidst the difficulties. Pray that we and other leaders create safe spaces for study and fellowship as we walk alongside these students who are the future of the Church.

Pray for Kanazawa Baptist Church's pastoral search committee as it discerns who God is leading to serve as our next pastor.

Kim Wyatt, Welcome House for Refugees, Raleigh, NC

Please pray for a new English as a second language class that we will be piloting for 6 weeks from October 7- November 15. This is a new venture with students that live in their home country but are friends and family of our in-person and virtual students that live here in North Carolina. Pray that these classes will bring hope alongside education to women that are not able to attend school where they live. Pray that the teachers will be wise, kind, and thoughtful in their teaching.

Pray for wisdom in standing with families that are living in fear of being detained and/or deported. Pray for leaders to be compelled to "seek justice, love mercy, and to walk humbly with God." Micah 6:8

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

Pray for ministry partners collecting new shoes for children in need.
Pray for those who are still displaced by the flooding and tornadoes earlier in this year. Pray for stable housing for these families. Pray for those struggling with PTSD and survivor's guilt.
Pray for those struggling with mental health issues including anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, grief, etc. Especially KG, WF, BW, EC, CJ, and others.
Pray for those struggling with addiction. Pray for resources and strength to seek treatment, especially MA, DW, DJ, and others.
Pray for those experiencing homelessness and food insecurity.
Pray for me as I minister to folks through mental health counseling, crisis intervention, case management, transportation, medical assistance, etc.
Pray for those experiencing domestic violence. Pray for me as I prepare a workshop about domestic violence.
Pray for me as I travel to update ministry partners.
Pray for the advocacy efforts regarding food insecurity, including the Bread for the World advocacy event in Frankfort, Kentucky, in October.
Please pray for my family, as we all have needs within our families.
Pray for the discord in our country.

Annette Ellard, Ministry to Refugees, Louisville, KY

Pray for the Strengthening Families initiative that we are launching in Louisville this fall. Pray that families will indeed be strengthened and that parents and children will receive the supports they need for trauma healing and deeper family attachments.

Thank you for your continuing prayers for Naw Dahler Paw, the eight-year-old Karen girl born with a severe esophagus defect. This year she is in the 2nd grade. She has missed several days of school because of medical problems, but her parents are thankful she has special tutors. Pray that she can remain healthy, keep up with her studies and begin to flourish. Pray that her stomach will grow so that she can eat more. Right now her stomach is very

small, so she gets most of her nourishment through a feeding tube. Pray that she will not need surgery again for many months so that she can become stronger. And please pray for her parents, grandparents, siblings, for strength and perseverance.

Praise God for progress in the lives of several folks receiving treatment for PTSD as well as other health issues. Pray specifically that each one will have consistent, uninterrupted sleep, free of nightmares. Pray for their strength and healing as God surrounds each of them with the support they need. Thank God for the doctors, nurses and therapists called to healing trauma and participating in their care.

Continue to pray for the Karen and other ethnic minorities of Burma (also known as Myanmar) suffering ongoing attacks by Burma's military. Pray for their protection. Pray that Thailand will have mercy on those fleeing across the border for safety and refuge. Pray for courageous leaders with integrity and vision. Pray for peace and cooperation.

Alicia and Jeff Lee, Agricultural Development and Ministry of Presence, Skopje, Macedonia

Pray for our friends at Poraka, a group home for adults with developmental delays, as they build community and break societal barriers and stereotypes.

Pray for finishing the harvest for our vineyards and greenhouses

Karen Alford, Medical Ministry, Vogan, Togo, West Africa

Pray that my new car does not break down as much as my old one, that I receive funding to build a new birthing center adjacent to the wound care clinic.

Eddie Aldape, Center of Hope, Almería, Spain

Pray for our language students. Everyone must learn Spanish and while children are able to learn it quickly, some adults struggle. Pray that God's love may be evident as we teach.

Jade and Shelah Acker, Ministry to Those Affected by War and Conflict, Kampala, Uganda

Please pray for the over 1.5 million refugees in Uganda.
Pray for peace in the region of East Africa.

Gennady and Mina Podgaisky, Ministry to Ukrainians, Kraków, Poland

Please pray for the end of the war in Ukraine. Pray for the people in Poland who are anxious after the 23 Russian drone attacks in September. Pray for Mina as she travels to Houston to attend a Christian Alliance for Orphans conference in early October. Pray for our language studies.

Tina Boyles Bailey, Arts Ministry, Graz, Austria

Pray for Displaced Iranians and Afghans seeking asylum in Austria.

Brooke and Mike, Theological Education and Hospitality, Waco, TX and Indonesia

Student demonstrations have spread across Indonesia, with many becoming violent or resulting in violent crackdowns. Please pray for peace and a path toward justice.

Our transition to the U.S. for our work with Baylor students continues. We will move into our new home this month. Please pray for provision and that this will be a place where students feel equally at home. We will attend Baylor Missions Week this month and speak in several classes. Please pray that students will hear God's call to serve.

Brittany and Casey Ramirez, Global Migration Partners, Baguio, Philippines

Please pray for us as we are beginning a new English Ministry to the overseas Chinese community here in Baguio, Philippines. Pray that this outreach will provide not only English lessons, but a place to build beloved community among this group that is far from their own home and culture.

Pray for our partner in this new ministry, Baguio Chinese Baptist Church (BCBC), a predominantly Filopino-Chinese congregation. Pray that as we minister together, we can learn from one another and better serve the overseas Chinese community.

Pray for us as we preach and speak at BCBC on October 19th. We are thankful for the invitation to share our heart and calling to the overseas Chinese community with this congregation.

Pray as we celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival with our Chinese friends. Pray that this holiday will give us an opportunity to reach out and minister to Chinese university students who are away from family during this time.

Jonathan Bailey, Ministry Through the Arts, Bali, Indonesia

Pray for musicians and other artists around the world who give voice and symbol to the love of God.

Global Missions Team

Join Global Missions as we pray for new partnerships with congregations, gifts to the Offering for Global Missions, and for increased growth in our Latin America Strategy.

October Birthday Calendar

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

1 Tina Boyles Bailey, Austria (FP)
1 Faith Bynoe (S-CBF Global)
2 Maha Boulos, Emeritus (FP)
2 Keith Holmes, Emeritus (FP)
3 Jonathan Bailey, Indonesia (FP)
3 Andrew Finkler, Fayetteville, NC (CH)
3 Matt Norman, Spain (FP)
4 Jana Lee, Cyprus (FP)
4 Michael Metcalf, Statesville, NC (CH)
5 Kate Blackshear, Austin, TX (CH)
5 Jo Ann Hopper, Emeritus (FP)
5 Gregory Thompson, Oakwood, GA (CH)
5 Chris Towles (S-North Carolina)
6 Margie Rivera (S-CBF Global)
7 Daniel Brockhan, Cheektowaga, NY (CH)
7 Melissa Rodriguez (S-Florida/CBF Global)
8 Lucas Dorion (S-Alabama)
8 Melissa Kremer (S-Georgia)
8 Robb Small, Geismar, LA (CH)
10 Larry Aaron, Danville, VA (CH)
10 Joseph Boone, Cold Spring, KY (CH)
10 Beth Duke, Smithville, TN (CH)
10 Jay Martin, Woodland Park, CO (PC)
10 Cinda Smith, Batesville, AR (CH)
10 Tina Woody, Spartanburg, SC (CH)
11 Randi McFarland, Lynchburg, VA (CH)
11 Laura Senter, Everett, WA (CH)
12 Melba Miller, Gainesville, GA (CH)
12 Ben Newell, Emeritus (FP)
12 Terry-Michael Newell, Zebulon, NC (PC)
12 Loren (Greg) Sink, Fayetteville, NC (Ret-CH)
13 Lloyd Blevins, Fayetteville, NC (CH)
13 Bob Newell, Emeritus (FP)
13 John Painter, Charleston, SC (CH)
13 Gretchen Watson, Louisville, KY (PC)
14 Yarelis Montex de Oca, Miami FL (CH)
14 Yuri Sekscinski, Temple, TX (CH)
16 Matthew Andrews, Birmingham, AL (CH)
16 Karen Black, Fort Worth, TX (CH)
16 Betty Drayton, Sumter, SC (CH)
16 Greg Greason, Kansas City, MO (CH)
16 Sarah Neeley, Tyler, TX (CH)
16 Cameron Mason Vickery (S-Fellowship Southwest)
16 Monty Self, Little Rock, AR (CH)
17 David Fambrough, Greenville, NC (CH)
18 Hank Demous, Opelika, AL (CH)
18 Nick Clanton, Charlotte, NC (CH)
18 Jesus Garcia, Reddick, FL (CH)
18 Danny Garnett, Irmo, SC (PC)
18 Jenine Crew (S-CBF Global)
20 Richard Brown, Roanoke, VA (CH)
20 Annette Ellard, Louisville, KY (FP)
20 Chuck Hawkins, Pearland, TX (CH)
20 Luke Langston, Durham, NC (CH)
20 Abby Nichols, Nashville, TN (CH)
22 Keith Cooper, Lubbock, TX (CH)
22 Paul Robertson, Sugar Land, TX (CH)
23 John Lassitter, Martindale, TX (CH)
23 Carl Price, Lebanon, TN (CH)
23 John Ray Roberts, Blacksburg, VA (CH)
23 Michael Weaver, Beaver, WV (CH)

24 Charles Lumpkin, Greensboro, NC (CH)
24 Wes Monfalcone, Casselberry, FL (CH)
24 Robert Powell, Birmingham, AL (CH)
24 Rick Ruano, North Miami Beach, FL (CH)
25 Doug Cobb, McGregor, TX (CH)
25 Nina Golston (S-CBF Global)
25 Suzie, Southeast Asia (FP)
26 Dean Dickens, Emeritus (FP)
27 Robert Carter, Virginia Beach, VA (CH)
27 Kathy Hoppe, Broken Arrow, OK (CH)
27 Terrell Moye, Palm Beach Gardens, FL (CH)
29 Mike Hutchinson, Emeritus (FP)
29 Sam Scaggs, Dublin, GA (CH)
29 Troy Todd, Norfolk, VA (CH)
30 Richard Brown, Troutville, VA (CH)
30 Hazel Thomas, Arlington, TX (CH)
31 Abina Johnson, New Orleans, LA (CH)