

# OCTOBER 2021

## PRAYER GUIDE

### *Missions at The Creek*

*Not all of our mission partnerships were able to participate in this prayer guide. Please keep all our Creek missionaries in your prayers.*

### HOW TO USE **THIS PRAYER GUIDE**

These devotions with prayer prompts are intended to assist our church family as we seek Christ personally in our daily time with Him and corporately during our monthly family prayer service. It is vital that we pursue the Lord in prayer with a humble heart and depend on His guidance and leadership.

**DEFINED BY THE WORD**

**DEVOTED TO PRAYER**

**DEPENDANT ON THE SPIRIT**

*ALL PREVIOUS PRAYER GUIDES ARE LOCATED ON OUR WEBSITE*

**[WWW.RICHLANDCREEK.COM](http://WWW.RICHLANDCREEK.COM)**

## **DAY 1: Introduction to Missions**

**Key Scripture:** *Isaiah 49:6, He (the LORD) says, “It is too small a thing that you should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light to the nations so that My salvation may reach the end of the earth.”*

When it comes to “Missions,” we should first stop and ask, “What mission?” The progressive redemptive drive of Scripture shows us that the salvation of mankind and the eventual renewal of creation is the “mission” of both the Old and New Testaments.

As Christopher Wright states, “The whole Bible renders to us the story of God’s mission through God’s people in their engagement with God’s world for the sake of the whole of God’s creation.” As Christians, Jesus’ salvific work has narrowed the message of this mission to His Gospel, or “Good News.”

Jesus has come to fulfill Isaiah 49:6. Therefore, our prayer and our response should be, LORD come and use me!

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- God, we pray for Your mission, Your Kingdom, and Your Gospel to advance both here and around the world through our mission partners and the Global Church.
- God, help us at Richland Creek to imitate Jesus by sharing Your Gospel to the nations so that Your salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.
- God, show us where we are failing to take advantage of the opportunities You give us to share Your Gospel.

## **DAY 2: Vision for RCCC Missions**

**Key Scripture:** *Malachi 1:11 For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to My name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts.*

Did you know 84% of Short-Term Mission trips go to 1/3 of the world's population that already have the most access to the Gospel? At Richland Creek, our vision is to flip that statistic by sending 80% of our teams to the least reached people groups, both here and around the world. We do this by creating partnerships focused on Evangelism, Discipleship, Church Planting, and Pastoral Equipping with church planters and missionaries who share our "Creek DNA" for the uncompromised teaching of God's Word and the uncompromised proclamation of the Gospel all around the world.

Read again Malachi 1:11 as it encapsulates our vision for Richland Creek Missions: *For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to My name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts.*

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- God, remove the scales from our eyes to see the greatness of Your name.
- God, stir within us a burning desire to make Your name great among the nations.
- God, give us a burden for the least reached people groups, both here and around the world.
- God, compel us through Your Spirit to take action in supporting our missions efforts and partnerships by praying for their efforts and our teams, giving financially to support Your mission, and going to the ends of the earth with the Gospel.

### **DAY 3: Our Plans for RCCC Missions in 2022**

**Key Scripture:** *Isaiah 55:6-8, Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the LORD.*

I (Pastor Nathan) remember when I was interning at my first church in Arkansas, my pastor told me one of the greatest skills of a pastor was learning to be flexible. It is easy to get so stuck on what we think God is trying to do that we actually miss out on participating in the Spirit's movement because it isn't what we "planned for." As we consider Missions in 2022, the key word is going to be flexible!

Looking into 2022, many of our partners who returned from the field this year or have scaled back aspects of their ministry due to funding or COVID, will be redoubling their efforts and returning to the field. As I think of Isaiah 55:6-8, I am grateful that God already knows His plans for 2022, and we merely need to be flexible.

#### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Pray for our partners as many do not know when or where they will return when COVID is "over."
- Pray for our partners who are still on the field as they try to plan for 2022.
- Pray that God would raise up church members to passionately accomplish His mission through our Short-Term and Mid-Term trips.
- Pray that God would call families within our church to career Missions.
- Pray for our new Missions director as they seek to minister to our missionary partners and to continue the process of shaping our Missions Ministry and mobilizing our church.

## **DAY 4: Jesus' Plan for Missions**

**Key Scripture:** *1 Peter 2:9-10, But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into his marvelous light; for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God, you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

The Church is Jesus' plan for missions. That may seem like a simple statement. However, if Christ's intent is for missions to be the natural overflow and response of every believer's daily walk with Christ, then the Church is Jesus' plan for missions.

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 again. In this incredible nugget of biblical truth, we see who we were, what we have received, who we now are, and the purpose for which the previous three have taken place. So, what is that purpose? That we may proclaim His excellencies! We have not received grace upon grace and mercy upon mercy to hoard it within ourselves, but to proclaim it to those around us. Yet a question remains: why don't all Christians fulfill their call to live a transformed life for His purpose in missions? There are two reasons why.

1. We haven't actually placed our faith in Christ. We may go to church and serve in the children's ministry; but simply going to church does not make us a part of the church. We have to place our faith in Christ.
2. We are afraid to share. Sometimes we are afraid of people, which results in shying away from and engaging with them. Other times, we are like the rich young ruler who is unwilling to actually submit everything before the throne of Christ and to find identity and purpose in the Gospel.

Therefore, in both scenarios, we need to ask, "Am I really who I say I am?" Our lives must match the faith we claim if we are going to participate in the blessing Christ has extended.

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Pray that you would fully realize who you were, what you have received through Christ, who you now are in Christ.
- Pray that God would give you opportunities to proclaim His excellencies to those who are still in darkness.
- Pray that Richland Creek would live to advance His mission.

## **DAY 5: Missions is the Responsibility for Every Believer**

**Key Scripture:** *1 Corinthians 9:19-23, For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those who are under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak; I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.*

If Jesus' plan for missions is built upon the Church, and the Church is made up of those who have been transformed through faith in Christ, then missions is the obligation and privilege of every believer. Moreover, missions is the natural response for every believer.

Paul exemplifies this obligation and honor in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 as he displays an intentionality around his identity in Christ that is very lacking in churches today. We are either too busy, too distracted, or just plain lost to be bothered by re-prioritizing everything in our lives around the Gospel that we may echo Paul's words in our daily lives, "I do all things for the sake of the gospel . . ." In quiet moments we have to ask, "What have I really sacrificed lately for the Gospel and to be conformed into the image of Christ?"

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Pray that God would stir within RCCC members a greater desire to participate in His mission.
- Pray that each member of our church would grow in their participation in His mission.
- Pray that missions and mobilization would become a primary part of our ethos—our way of life—as a church.

## **DAY 6: Praying for Missionaries**

*David Platt, former President of the SBC International Mission Board*

Acts 13 and 14 communicate one of the most pivotal stories in all of missions history. They relay the first recorded sending of missionaries by a local church in Scripture. Paul and Barnabas were commissioned for their particular task in a worship service, complete with singing, prayer, fasting, and the laying on of hands.

*Pastor John Piper claimed of this passage, “This moment of prayer and fasting resulted in a missions movement that would make Christianity the dominant religion of the Roman Empire within two-and-a-half centuries and would yield 1.3 billion adherents of the Christian religion today with a Christian witness in virtually every country of the world.”*

The people in that room in Antioch were together for a particular reason. They were not all the same, but they found themselves agreeing on a common purpose: they were united by the gospel of God, enthralled in the worship of God, and intensely focused on the mission of God. In that moment, the Spirit called out two men to be sent out, and the church responded with immediate obedience. The synergy between the call of the Spirit and the prayerful response of the church resulted in a supernatural spread of the gospel that continues to this day.

The Spirit and the church sent Paul and Barnabas—the whole church, not simply a few people. The church demonstrated a commitment to upholding those they sent out, even when separated by time and distance. Essentially, the church said to the missionaries, “We are with you.” Remarkably, the primary manner they did so was through Spirit-empowered prayer.

Today, our prayers remain the greatest way we can support those we are sending out, invoking the very power of God to intervene in ways that are beyond our human limitations to save the lost. So, I’d like to lay out sixteen ways over the next two days what I see in this passage of Scripture to pray for our missionaries continually.

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Lord, give me a heart to pray for the nations and those servants You have sent to be a light for the Gospel.
- Pray that I can take part by praying for them, supporting them, and serving them.

## **DAY 7: Prayer Support for Missionaries**

### **Pray that they are confident in God's Word (Acts 13:4–5).**

*4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them.*

Missionaries are sent not just to learn culture or do humanitarian relief but to confidently proclaim the Word of God.

### **Pray that they would be filled with God's Spirit (Acts 13:6–9).**

*6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him*

Believers already have the Holy Spirit in them, but at times the Spirit fills someone in a special way to enable him or her to proclaim God's Word.

### **Pray for their victory in spiritual warfare (Acts 13:10–12).**

*10 and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.*

When our brothers and sisters take the gospel into the nations, they are going into a war. The devil is dead set on destroying souls and diverting mission.

### **Pray for their success in gospel witness (Acts 13:12).**

*12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.*

Pray that many would come to know Christ in all walks of life from the faithful witness of our missionaries.



## **DAY 8: Prayer Support for Missionaries**

### **Pray for peace with other believers (Acts 13:13).**

*13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem,*

Satan attacks from all angles, both inside and outside. Pray for peace within families, in marriages, with children, and with companions and ministry partners.

### **Pray for favor with unbelievers (Acts 13:14–15).**

*14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it.”*

Nonbelievers are blind to the gospel, and many are violently opposed to its message. Pray that missionaries would find favorable opportunities to share the gospel with them.

### **Pray the gospel will be clear through them (Acts 13:16–47).**

*Read Acts 13:16-47*

Although cross-cultural communication is difficult, pray that missionaries, by grace, would clearly communicate the character of God, the sinfulness of man, the sufficiency of Christ, the necessity of faith, and the urgency of eternity.

### **Pray that God will open hearts around them (Acts 13:48).**

*48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.*

God alone draws people to himself. Pray that he will open hearts and minds to believe and be drawn to eternal life with Christ.

## **DAY 9: Prayer Support for Missionaries**

### **Pray for their joy in the midst of suffering (Acts 14:1–2).**

*Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.*

Missionaries often face various forms and levels of suffering in their work. Pray that they would experience the joy of intimacy with Christ in the midst of it.

### **Pray for their kindness in the midst of slander (Acts 14:1–2).**

*Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.*

Though missionaries face suffering and difficulty, pray that the character of Christ and the power of his Spirit enable them to respond with grace.

### **Pray for supernatural power to accompany them (Acts 14:3).**

*3 So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.*

Pray that missionaries would speak the Word with boldness and that supernatural power would accompany its proclamation.

### **Pray for Christlike humility to characterize them (Acts 14:4–7).**

*4 But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. 5 When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, 6 they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, 7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.*

Pray that missionaries would overcome the temptation to be prideful in their work by the power of the Spirit.

## **DAY 10: Prayer Support for Missionaries**

### **Pray for their patience (Acts 14:8–18).**

*Read Acts 14:8-18*

Missionaries face ups and downs and wins and losses in their work. Pray that they might respond with longsuffering.

### **Pray for their perseverance (Acts 14:19–20).**

*19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. 20 But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.*

In 2 Corinthians 4:8–9 Paul wrote, “We are . . . struck down but not destroyed.” Pray for missionaries to persevere through setback after setback, beatdown after beatdown, and struggle after struggle.

### **Pray God would use them to make disciples (Acts 14:21–23).**

*21 When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. 23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.*

Pray that missionaries would see fruit in their ministries as they seek to make disciples among the nations.

### **Pray God uses them to multiply churches (Acts 14:24–28).**

*24 Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. 25 And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, 26 and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. 27 And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they remained no little time with the disciples.*

Pray for the multiplication of churches filled with people who know the Word led by pastors who teach the Word.

## Day 11: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### **The Neiser Family - Ben • Lindsey • Ella • Clara**

*Serving the people of Provo, Utah*

#### **Personal Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for Ben as he continually needs wisdom and discernment in vision and shepherding this family of believers.
- Pray for our believers. Spiritual warfare is real here; and when God is on the move, the enemy is not too far behind.
- Pray for the unbelievers. Pray that they would come to faith in Christ. Pray for continued opportunities for the gospel to be presented in this community.
- Pray the Spirit would continue to pour out His power as we desire to transform this city with the gospel.
- Pray for the salvation of our daughters Ella (11) and Clara (10).

*For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. - 1 Corinthians 2:2*

## Day 12: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### **The Price Family - Troy • Gwyn**

*Serving the people of Port Au Prince, Haiti*

#### **Personal Prayer Requests:**

- Pray the disciples that we've been teaching would live out the core competencies they've been learning and growth in the Lord.
- Pray for the Lord's protection and safety. We live and work in an unstable area. It is a risk everyday go out and do ministry. Pray for the Lord to give us wisdom and discernment in all these matters.
- Pray for the malnutrition kids. Pray that they will gain weight and guardians would listen to our instructions on how to help their babies health but most importantly that their faith be in Christ.
- Pray for the Lord to reveal opportunities on how we can minister to our brothers and sisters here.

*Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations. - Romans 1:4b-5*

## Day 13: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The White Family

Gerald • Morna • Noah • James • Faith

*Serving the people of Edinburgh, Scotland*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray for unity in a Covid world that comes thick and fast at us and that we can make the best decisions possible.
- Pray for protection over the church family. Pray that they would walk with Jesus and flee from sin.
- Pray for Gerald as he prepares his sermons. Pray that he would be faithful and rely on the Spirit to guide him.
- Pray for more mature believers to commit to us in the future and for souls to be saved in our community.
- Pray for our family, that Gerald and Morna would lead and love each other well.

*For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." - Acts 13:47*



## Day 14: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The Bunch Family

Jimmy • Natalie • Theodore • William

*Serving the people of Prague, Czech Republic*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray that both our sons, Theo (5) and Liam (3), will grow to know and love the Lord and serve Him with their every breath. Pray for their health.
- Pray for the ministry here as we love the people and share the gospel with those in our community. Pray for the salvation of lost individuals with whom we have continued to share.
- Pray for our family to have a growing and deepening relationship with God and to be protected from the evil one and his tactics to discourage us.

*Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you. - 2 Thessalonians 3:1*

## Day 15: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### Protective Region Family

David • Becca • Sophia • Jackson • Harper

*Serving the people of Northern Europe*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray that the Spirit would go before us and prepare the hearts of the people to hear the gospel and believe.
- Pray that we would have good points of access to our people group. Pray against distractions as we labor.
- Pray for us as we work with the church group. Pray that we would be an encouragement, and that God would use us to call more laborers to the task of reaching the unreached people.
- Pray for our kids, that they would be saved and that they would find their refuge in Christ as we navigate life in another new country.
- Pray that we would be obedient to abide in the Father, above all.

*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. - 1 John 1:7*



## Day 16: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The Siemers Family

Chris • Lisa

*Serving at Samaritan's Purse as Regional Chaplain*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray for wisdom and direction as we minister to the men and women who have served in our military. Pray as we care for these veterans and their families.
- Pray for our family to have direction on where we should be connected with a local body of believers.
- Pray for a growing faith that God will provide, even in these challenging times of discouragement and to keep focused on the mission of the gospel.

*Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." - John 15:5*

## Day 17: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### **The McClure Family**

Brian • Allie • Children

*Serving the people of Prague, Czech Republic*

#### **Personal Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for a daily awakening to the power and fullness of the Holy Spirit in our life and ministry.
- Pray that the Spirit would go before us and prepare the hearts of the people to hear the gospel and believe.
- Pray as we recently launched a Sunday church plant service so we are putting all our efforts into growing that right now.
- Pray for us as we work with church planters in our region
- Pray that we would be an encouragement, and that God would use us to call more laborers to the task of reaching the unreached people.
- Pray that we would be obedient to abide in the Father, above all.

*Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. - Matthew 9:38*

## Day 18: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### **The Angell Family**

Robby • Rachel • Eli

*Serving the people of South Asia*

#### **Personal Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for our country as it is not open for international travel at this time. We are continuing to be notified on a monthly basis whether we will go back in Fall or next year.
- Pray for us to have wisdom with how to spend our time as we wait for Eli's passport and visa.
- Pray as we connect with our support groups and for the Lord to continue to provide for the needs of the ministry.
- Pray for our local brothers and sisters in South Asia that continue to engage the lost and grow disciples for Christ.

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word - Colossians 4:2-3a*

## Day 19: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### **The Smith Family**

Noah • Vicki • Teddy

*Serving the people of Solomon Islands (Bible Translators)*

#### **Personal Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for a healthy birth of our second child this December 2021.
- Pray for us as we continue to prepare and learn all that the Lord would have us to know as we move to the Islands in Aug. 2022.
- Pray for the hearts of the people in the Solomon Islands that God would start preparing them for the gospel in their own tongue.
- Pray for our fundraising efforts and that people would come alongside us on this mission financially and as prayer partners.
- Pray for all those who do not have a Bible in their own language and for the Lord to provide Bible translators.

*I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. - 1 Corinthians 9:22*



## Day 20: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### Protective Region Family

Ron • Kelly

*Serving the people of Eurasia*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray for our family as we minister to Kelly's mom who is declining in health. Pray for wisdom with providing care for her needs.
- Pray for us as we provide care to many field workers as they have persevered through a very tough Covid season, some continuing to face significant restrictions/adjustments to their freedom of movement, ministry activities, kids' schooling, etc.
- Pray for workers as they are being forced to relocate due to war, terrorism, or evictions from their country because of their ministries - the transition stress is very in these situations.
- Pray for our children, Amy and Kyle as they serve overseas. Pray for Cole and Drew to have wisdom with their decisions.

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. - 2 Corinthians 1:3-5*

## Day 21: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The Capo Family

Tony • Tola • Trevis • Matias • Tessa Rose • Benjamin Art

*Serving the people of Europe*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray for God's wisdom as we want to make disciples and as we share the gospel with young professionals.
- Pray that God will multiply our efforts as we take the initiative in the power of the Holy Spirit to share the gospel boldly in creative ways and leave the results to God.
- Pray for our family members who do not know Christ.
- Pray for our family according to Proverbs 3:5-6. We thank God for His providence and care in the midst of challenges.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. - Proverbs 3:5-6*

## Day 22: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The Wells Family

Trey • Laura • James • John

*Serving the people of Netherlands*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray that the relationships we build would lead to gospel conversations.
- Pray for Bible Studies at each base will continue to grow and people will be impacted positively and drawn closer to Christ.
- Pray for our two boys adjusting to extracurricular activities in the Dutch community and the language barrier they have.
- Pray for Laura as she educates and as the boys start school.
- Pray for our marriage and the marriages on the military base to be strengthened under the Word of God.

*And also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel. - Ephesians 6:19*

## Day 23: Missionary Prayer Spotlight



### The Page Family

David • Karla

*Serving the people of Europe*

#### Personal Prayer Requests:

- Pray that the Spirit would go before us and prepare the hearts of the people to hear the gospel and believe.
- Pray for the church planting efforts with the Persians. Pray for wisdom as we minister to these people and care for their needs.
- Pray for the Afghanistan ministry opportunities and those who are taking refuge in Europe.
- Pray for our daily time in the Word of God to strengthen our faith and our marriage.
- Pray against distractions and protection against the enemy.

*Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation. For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. Romans 10:1-2*



## Day 25: Daytona Bike Week 2021



**(Team:** Lonnie Smith, Alan, Mike Greene, Joe Tomberlin, David Cook, Pastor Jim Gillespie, Suzanne Wickham, Nichole Ewing, and Ken Overbaugh)

**Key Scripture:** *Ephesians 2:1-5 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience – among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved.*

This year marked the twelfth year that the Richland Creek Riders have attended Daytona Bike week. We have had the opportunity to share the Gospel with hundreds of people- from the homeless guy on the street to the waitress who was just diagnosed with breast cancer to the guy at the hotel who just purchased a very expensive motorcycle. We've cried and lamented with people, prayed with them, and laughed with them. We desire to be obedient to what Scripture commands of us as Christians- to share the Good news of Christ (see Matthew 28:18-20). In addition to sharing the Gospel, as a team, we also encourage and challenge one another to grow deeper in our faith and knowledge of Christ.

**Questions to Consider:** Have you shared the Good News- the rich mercy and love of God available by grace through faith in Christ with a friend or family member in the last week? Month? Year? Ever? If not, what is holding you back?

**Prayer Prompts:** Father God, thank You for demonstrating Your own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom. 5:8

## Day 26: Utah Mission Trip 2021



**Team:** Isaac Mateus, Drew Waterman, Chase Harrison, Hayley Stevenson, Jase Brown, Makayla Waterman, Jordan Harrison, T'von Cole, Kim Brown, Abigail Eubanks, Tedric Cole, Samuel Sanchez, James Welty, Nate Yawn, and Zach Gonda)

### ***Key Scripture: Colossians 1:15-16***

God is moving in Provo, Utah. Although it's a city that might not seem much different than even our own in some respects, it is a place filled with spiritual warfare as the Lord continues to open the eyes of the blind. The Salt Lake City and Provo area is the home to BYU, a headquarters of the Latter-Day Saint faith, as well as a mission field to our partners, the Neiser family. As we engage with college students around Brigham Young and Utah Valley Universities, we prayerfully guide encounters on the street towards the person and deity of Jesus since this is the hinge at which people there begin to understand the true gospel.

The firsthand experience of seeing God's work through street evangelism, prayer walking, gospel appointments, Bible studies, and more has been a changing point in my faith. The challenge to know the Bible we love so much and to understand our own "Church language" that we use so often has helped me understand that, as believers, we are meant to grow and mature, with evangelism being a part of that process. Seeing Jesus Christ take center stage, magnified in conversations in Provo, has been crucial to my relationship with Him - and not just for myself but for the relationships of others that have gone. The presence of God's grace in our weaknesses as we attempt to preach Christ has also been evident and comforting. To see His sovereignty as the gospel goes forward steadily through hard work by the Neiser's and the Mosaic Church plant fills me with joy and eagerness to go back. There is much fruitful yet challenging work being done in Utah, with great kingdom impact.

### **Prayer Prompts:**

- Pray for Mosaic Church, a young church plant growing right in the heart of Provo. That they would be a people who love Jesus and disciple others to love and glorify Him.

## Day 27: Background of Provo, Utah

**Key Scripture:** *1Chronicles 16:23- Sing to the LORD, all the earth! Tell of his salvation from day to day.*

Provo, Utah is a place where you can go within our country that the majority has a very different Biblical lens than we do as evangelical Christians. The population there mainly comes from a Latter-Day Saints background. While there, you interact with some of the nicest people, but when you talk to them about spiritual matters, their responses are very emotionally based as they don't understand that grace is given by faith alone. If they are still a part of the LDS church, they want to say they believe the same as us but have vastly different views on grace and who Jesus is. Provo houses both a main temple for the LDS church and also the central LDS college, Brigham Young University.

Some residents of Provo have been hurt by the church, and they are starting to see the faults in the LDS church and its theology. However, because the LDS community is very tight-knit, they often find themselves estranged from their families and friends when they begin to question the LDS church. This questioning creates a very defeated community that wants to find an escape, but it seems too difficult.

Then there are the missionaries, and church members that we work with that live among this community. They pray diligently for the city God has placed them in. They have to live out 1 Chronicles 16:23 daily. Many of the people they interact with have some Biblical knowledge, but it has never been presented quite like this. Therefore, those sharing have to be patient while those they share with process the biblical truth told to them and filter out the lies they have been taught all their life.

### Questions to Consider:

Are you patient with those that need to process the truth before they accept the gospel? Are you diligent in telling of his salvation from day to day wherever you are?

### Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for those within the LDS church to see the truth in salvation by grace through faith alone.
- Pray for those that have been hurt by the LDS church and that the true gospel would be shared with them.
- Pray the missionaries and church members would have patience, diligence, and spiritual sensitivity to go where God is already working.

## Day 28: Montana Construction Mission Trip 2021



**Team:** Zane & Joy Styers, Kyle Sutherland, Seth Jamison, Chuck & Martha Jo Bounds, John Wright, Karissa Wright, Josh Mills, Chad Johnson, Dave & Wendy Mucha, and Casey Sutherland

**Key Scripture:** *Matthew 25:40 And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'*

Richland Creek has partnered with the NC Baptist on Mission for the past several years with the Rocky Mountain construction project. Since 2005, Baptists on Mission has been sending teams to serve in the Rocky Mountain area of our nation. Projects have been completed in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico.

The Purpose of the NC Baptist Construction Ministry is to mobilize volunteers to use their skills, talents, and time in response to disaster and construction projects that will further God's kingdom in North Carolina, across the United States and around the world.

This year our team was sent to St. Regis, Montana to assist in the construction of a new parsonage. The congregation is one of very few evangelical churches along the I-90 corridor between Missoula and the Idaho border. Housing in the area is both sparse and very expensive, making it very difficult for the congregation to offer a pastor a living wage. The building of the parsonage will show the community that this growing church is committed and here to stay.

Each year our teams have labored by using the talents and skills the Lord has given to serve sister churches across the country. It was no different this year as everyone played a special role in the ministry from, carpentry and electrical to helping with installing insulation to cooking. No role is more valuable than another, as with the body of Christ, we all function at our best when we are working together.

**Prayer Prompts:** Pray for Richland Creek as we continue to serve in this capacity that more laborers will join on the next mission project for 2022. Praise the Lord for the work that was accomplished in Montana.

## Day 29: Montana Team Testimony

**Key Scripture:** *Ephesians 1:15-16* “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers...”

My name is Chuck Bounds and my wife, Martha Jo and I had the privilege of taking part in the mission trip this summer to Montana. This year's project was to build a home for a pastor of New Day Fellowship Church in the very small western Montana town of St. Regis. Our team worked on roofing, siding, insulation, drywall, plumbing, and electrical.

In addition to working with our hands, the Lord provided several opportunities to share the gospel. One afternoon a young man named James came to the church and said he was looking for a place to stay. James had walked from Florida and was on his way to Washington. He was tired and hungry, so we invited him to eat dinner with our group. While we were waiting for dinner, I shared the gospel with him and his response was that he was a Christian, and he told me how he had become a believer. He didn't reveal much about his personal life or why he was walking across the USA, but he didn't hesitate to share that he belonged to Jesus. We were all blessed to serve this young man that God placed in the middle of our mission trip. All that we were able to accomplish was in answer to prayer and for God's glory.

Pastor Morris Hill and his wife Barbara have been serving at New Day Fellowship Church for a couple of years now. They are working hard to become a part of the community and to build trust for the purpose of leading people to Christ. Living in the town instead of commuting from somewhere else is key. The Lord is blessing their obedience and they have already made some inroads into becoming part of the community of St. Regis. Pastor Hill is holding Sunday services in a local park because they have outgrown their church sanctuary. It is amazing what God is doing in St. Regis in response to the prayers of the faithful.

### Questions to Consider:

Are you prayerfully considering how God might use you in missions? Do you know that missionaries all over the world are counting on consistent prayers of their Christian brothers and sisters on their behalf?

### Prayer Prompts:

- Pray for New Day Fellowship Church and for their spiritual growth/discipleship.
- Pray for Pastor Morris and Barbara Hill in St. Regis as the shepherd this flock. Pray for the Lord to continue to prepare hearts for ministry.
- Pray for other pastors in Montana who are struggling financially to trust in the Lord's provision.

## Day30: The Meaning of "Here Am I; Send Me"

**Key Scripture:** *Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."*

Isaiah 6 describes how the prophet Isaiah, through a vision from the Lord, begins his ministry for God. In the vision, the Lord asks, "'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' Isaiah's response was to volunteer for service: "Here am I; send me."

After a 52-year reign of relative peace, King Uzziah of Judah died of leprosy in 739 BC (2 Chronicles 26:16–23), the same year Isaiah began his prophetic ministry. In a vision Isaiah saw the Lord, "high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple" (Isaiah 6:1). The Lord had a message to deliver to the nation of Judah, and He expresses His desire for a messenger in verse 8. Isaiah's exclamation "Here am I; send me" marked the very beginning of his ministry; the priest was now a prophet, and the Lord's message for Judah eventually became the book of Isaiah.

Before Isaiah could say, "Here am I; send me," he had a problem that had to be addressed. Isaiah 6:5 describes how Isaiah was made aware of his own unworthiness: "Woe to me! . . . I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Standing in the Lord's presence, Isaiah is made painfully aware of his sin, and he is broken about it in the same way as were Job (Job 42:6) and Peter (Luke 5:8) when they were confronted with the presence of the Lord. God was preparing Isaiah for his cleansing and commission.

After Isaiah acknowledges his sin, a seraph takes a burning piece of coal from the altar, touches Isaiah's lips with it, and says, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for" (Isaiah 6:7). Some details are important here: Isaiah could not remove his own guilt, the atonement is made possible by the altar—the place of sacrifice—and the purification is specifically applied to the point of Isaiah's sin—his lips—making Isaiah acceptable as a minister of God's words.

It is only after Isaiah is cleansed of his sin that he says, "Here am I; send me." Prior to that point, he saw himself as an unworthy messenger; once he was forgiven, he immediately desired to serve the Lord in whatever way possible. The Lord asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"—He wants willing volunteers in His service—and a grateful and enthusiastic Isaiah doesn't hesitate in taking the opportunity: "Here am I; send me." And for the rest of his life, Isaiah serves the God who had forgiven and saved him. (*Article from Gotquestions.org*)

**Prayer Prompt:** Father, give me a heart that is obedient to Your calling on my life and to be a willing servant like Isaiah.

# Thank You

We praise the Lord for all those who contributed to make this prayer guide possible. We are so grateful for the faithful servants who have dedicated their time and talents to writing this prayer guide.

To God Be the Glory!

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## ***1 Thessalonians 5:12-13***

*But we ask you, brothers and sisters, to recognize those who diligently labor among you and are in leadership over you in the Lord, and give you instruction, and that you regard them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.*