

By Prayer

November-December 2018

Prayer Focus:

Church involvement in multi-church conferences, recruitment and support of missions, spiritual life, and camps

In some of His final words, Jesus spoke to His followers about the importance of teaching new disciples and of loving one another in such a way the world would recognize them as His followers. Over the next two months we will join in prayer for His laborers and for more workers to join His global mission. We will also pray for the efforts of churches working internally and across congregational lines, in unity, encouraging spiritual growth, training disciples, and sending and supporting them to spread the good news to those who live and die without knowing Jesus. Enter with us into this Christmas season of focusing on Jesus and His kingdom *by prayer*.

November 2018

NOV 01 THURSDAY

International Leadership & Services – Many mission workers struggle with support. Pray they find new ways to engage fellow believers who will join their ministry through financial partnerships, which will allow them to continue piercing dark places with the light of the gospel.

NOV 02 FRIDAY

Sports Friends – Praise God for several college and church short-term teams that served with Sports Friends in 2018. Pray God would raise up more teams to join Sports Friends in this valuable ministry opportunity in 2019.

THE AMERICAS

NOV 03 SATURDAY

Ministry Focus, David and Myriam Trott, Bolivia - The Lord is answering prayer for harvest workers by sending Bolivians. A medical doctor is now serving in the same clinic where Myriam served in Angola. One young man whom David discipled is being equipped at the Word of Life training center in Argentina. Myriam trained women in cross-cultural ministry using SIM's VAMOS manual, and four of them are taking the Perspectives course offered here, along with Myriam. Pray the Lord will do more than we can imagine through all those He is calling into missions!

NOV 04 SUNDAY

Bolivia – Osvaldo and Timara Arancibia and Javier and Roxana Zubieta led the second annual Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course with about 180 attendees in four cities. Ask God's continuing guidance as they help mobilize and equip the Church in missions.

Canada – Five Canadian pastors will teach rural pastors at a Bible college, visit villages of the Afar nomadic tribe, and teach at a discipleship seminar for Afar believers. Pray for future teaching opportunities and an expanded ministry vision for their Canadian churches.

NOV 05 MONDAY

Chile – The Lauriano (Brazilian) family's support has been seriously affected by the downturn of the economy in Brazil. Pray for God's miraculous and abundant provision for this family involved in church development in three communities near Santiago.

NOV 06 TUESDAY

Ecuador – Most churches are in bigger cities with many opportunities. Ask God to guide workers to convey His passion to connect with and reach those in rural areas, where living standards are lower and people have fewer opportunities to hear of Jesus's love for them.

NOV 07 WEDNESDAY

Latinoamérica – Ask God to renew strength of mind and creativity for strategies in the Latinoamérica management staff for the sustainability of the ministries. Request the Lord to continue to call workers for His harvest from Latin America with missionary passion to serve Him.

NOV 08 THURSDAY

Paraguay – SIM Paraguay requests prayers for boldness in proclaiming the gospel and unity as a team. Ask for smooth team transitions as some are on home assignment while other families are new to the field. Pray the director adjusts to this new role quickly.

NOV 09 FRIDAY

Peru – Praise for the mission mobilization team finishing the *Let's Mobilize His Church* material for equipping the Church and training candidates. Pray for the national teams that are forming to distribute and teach materials to churches and mobilizers.

NOV 10 SATURDAY

United States – Pray for expanded vision and kingdom fruit as Brittany Gardner engages the African American Church and Alexandra Zamora the Hispanic Church across the U.S. Pray provision for needed help and resources. Pray also for God's work through SIM at Urbana December 27–31.

Uruguay – A new sports ministry is being started by SIM Uruguay missionaries called Camp Games. Please pray for wisdom and effectiveness in the planning, and for God to speak to the hungry hearts of Uruguayans through this effort!

EUROPE, NORTH & WEST AFRICA

NOV 11 SUNDAY

Ministry Focus, J. and J., West Africa - Praise God with us for national coworkers in unsecure situations who are assuming greater roles upon the withdrawal of expat missionaries. There continue to be victories of people coming to faith! One man recently shared with a whole village for over four hours late one night. All he had to do was show up and answer questions posed by those who practice another religion but are very open to his witness. On Sunday mornings, a group of young men meet to study God's Word; they are currently reading the book of Ecclesiastes. Pray God will strengthen our coworkers' hands.

NOV 12 MONDAY

France – The SIM French and Belgium office looks to engage and partner with churches for world mission. Pray churches embrace the vision for missions and invest resources and people in the work of taking Jesus to those who do not yet know Him.

NOV 13 TUESDAY

Switzerland – Brigitte, responsible for recruitment and placement of personnel, will travel to many ministry locations in 2019. Please pray for smooth transitions of responsibilities to those taking over temporarily, safe travels, and also for helpful contacts in each place.

NOV 14 WEDNESDAY

United Kingdom – On Tuesday SIM-UK will celebrate 125 years of pioneering mission. Pray for final preparations and for this event in Birmingham to effectively mobilize more people for mission whether through praying, giving, or taking the gospel to those who have not heard.

NOV 15 THURSDAY

North Africa – Thank God for two families currently planning to arrive in 2019. Please join them in prayer as they raise their support teams. Ask God to guide mobilization efforts to grow the current team of thirteen, including these two new families, to fifty.

NOV 16 FRIDAY

Benin – Pray for energy and good collaboration as the Weno team finishes recording the Genesis video this month in Benin. Ask for the local churches to grow in their desire to engage with and reach out to their Weno neighbors.

Burkina Faso – The team in Burkina has just had its spiritual life conference. Pray for the team as it faces many enormous challenges with a greatly reduced staff. Ask for strength and power from the Lord for the many battles ahead.

NOV 17 SATURDAY

Côte d'Ivoire – Praise God for the safe arrival of France-Lyne and Pierre Balon to work in the north. Pray they swiftly integrate well into the culture and have fruitful ministries. Ask God to increase financial support for SIM workers sent from the West African Mission Office.

NOV 18 SUNDAY

Ghana – Praise God for two families from Ethiopia that have come to work among the Fulani in northern Ghana. Praise also for a couple from India that arrived in September to work among the Sisaala people. Ask God for fruitful ministries for these families.

NOV 19 MONDAY

Guinea – Three missionaries are now in full-time language and culture learning. Pray for their encouragement as they progress in their ability to communicate. Pray for growing relationships and gospel-focused conversations with their language assistants and friends.

NOV 20 TUESDAY

Liberia – SIM Liberia is working with the SIM West African Missions Office to promote and encourage churches in West Africa to appoint and send their members to serve in Liberia. Pray God calls missionaries from these churches, enabled and equipped to serve.

NOV 21 WEDNESDAY

Mali – Pray for the Lord of the harvest to send workers among the deaf community of Mali and among the Moors, the Soninke and the Fulani people groups in the Kayes region. Ask Him to prepare hearts in these areas to hear and respond to the good news.

NOV 22 THURSDAY

Niger – Andrew and Nikki Gray offer partner churches marriage and family classes. Few Nigeriens had Christian role models, so this is in demand. Pray for the Grays' language skills to deepen as they bring God's truth to this sensitive topic in culturally appropriate ways.

NOV 23 FRIDAY

Nigeria – Please pray God strengthens and blesses the West Africa Missions Office's mobilization efforts. Pray God encourages and equips individuals and churches responding to His call to missions from newer sending countries. Ask for blessings to pour out for their support.

NOV 24 SATURDAY

Senegal – SIM Senegal is excited Chelsey is joining its team. She will be bringing Jesus to university students as she teaches them English. Pray for God's remaining provision of the prayer and financial partners she needs in order to get there.

NOV 25 SUNDAY

Togo – SIM-related churches began their own Bible school this year. Pray for good organization and wise decisions as leaders work through the unknowns of this first year. Pray they find qualified teachers for each of the scheduled courses.

West African Missions Office – Praise God for Daniel and Malata and their two children who moved from Burkina Faso to Ghana to be the new WAMO director. Pray they settle and adjust well, and for the Lord to provide all their needs as well as those of all the West African missionaries.

EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

NOV 26 MONDAY

Ministry Focus, *Greg and Cambie Wilson, Kenya* - Assisting our Kenyan partner churches in outreach, we held two Sports Friends special needs camps in June with the help of visiting family, friends and a mission team from a Texas church. The team leading the second camp visited the families of the first camp and got a glimpse of how the Lord used it to change the lives of special needs children. Parents said, "I now see my child as a blessing, not a curse," and "My son used to be unable to hold a cup or fork, but now he can drink on his own and is trying to use a fork." Ask the Lord for continued fruit.

NOV 27 TUESDAY

Angola – Praise God for nine new workers from five countries joining the SIM Angola team by January. Pray for smooth entries and strong bonding as these new members arrive. Pray the team encourages and supports one another through this transition time.

NOV 28 WEDNESDAY

Botswana – After some time learning Setswana, the Tanner family is looking into areas where it can reach out to people and disciple some. Pray for wisdom and the Lord's leading as there are many demands from churches and communities.

NOV 29 THURSDAY

East Africa Service Center (EASC) – Pray for the EASC team as it continues to support the ministries in the East Africa region through finance, media and government relations. Pray for the finance team as staff get back into a routine after a busy financial year-end period.

NOV 30 FRIDAY

East African Office – The East African Office works with many churches. Ask for God's love to abundantly overflow in individuals and churches. Pray the EAO and churches work in unity to support and send those God calls to spread the good news among those who don't yet know Him.

December 2018

DEC 1 SATURDAY

Eritrea – Continue to praise God for daily flights between Eritrea and Ethiopia, which are unifying families and strengthening spiritual bonds. Pray the peace and openness spreads and becomes firmly established, and for a future radio ministry based within Eritrea.

Ethiopia – Two recent states of emergency depleted SIM Ethiopia personnel. A personnel coordinator, admin director, teachers and administrators for Bingham, and disciplers of those who have not heard the gospel are all urgently needed. Pray these positions are filled soon.

DEC 02 SUNDAY

Kenya – Kenya's transitional leadership team is prayerfully searching for an interim and a new director. Pray members wisely prioritize and manage directorship responsibilities in this time of transition. Ask God to guide them to His leader for this position.

DEC 03 MONDAY

Madagascar – Praise the Lord for a young Malagasy couple that felt called to work as missionaries at the Timothy Center after their wedding in September. She is doing the bookkeeping for the project and will help home school the four Rabeantoandro children.

DEC 04 TUESDAY

Malawi – SIM and partners are working together to help various ministries transition to greater local leadership and oversight, especially in the areas of administration, finances and strategic planning. Pray for the Holy Spirit's wise guidance for all through this change.

DEC 05 WEDNESDAY

Mascarene Islands – The Godins travel to encourage a couple who live far from their church. Every time, more people come join them, so there is now a group who meet every week in a garage. Pray for a larger place to meet and for God's transformation of this community.

DEC 06 THURSDAY

Mozambique – Praise God for the continued growth of the Instituto Teologica de Lichinga. Pray graduates lead their churches to be mature, biblically-based servants of God, sharing the good news with their communities and the world. Ask God to send more workers to Mozambique.

DEC 07 FRIDAY

Namibia – Plans are started for the 2019 Pastors’ Book Set conferences focusing on mission awareness and equipping church leaders. Pray these resources help pastors grow in effectiveness. Ask God to challenge Namibian churches to be more intentional and involved in mission.

Southern Africa Service Center (SASC) – Pray for the SASC, which is in transition. The IT and media coordinators are leaving mid-December for home assignment, and another couple may be joining the team to help in people care. Pray also for rest and recuperation after an intense year.

DEC 08 SATURDAY

South Africa – SIM South Africa’s office is focusing on recruiting young people to assist in its communications department. This includes media, social media, writing and editing, video production and mission mobilization. Pray for long-term workers and short-term interns.

DEC 09 SUNDAY

South Sudan & Sudan – A recent SIM Harvest Worker Project video highlights the call to serve in South Sudan. Pray many from around the world see this video and respond to the call to support or come to this fertile field ready for a bountiful spiritual harvest.

DEC 10 MONDAY

Tanzania – It is getting harder to get visas for Tanzania. Plead with heaven for the process to ease so visas are granted for three new families and one is renewed. Ask the Lord to provide every need in order for a new primary school to be started next year in Lindi.

DEC 11 TUESDAY

Zambia – SIM Zambia thanks God for answered prayers for a country director. Dave and Sandy Roberts will move from Canada early next year to lead the Zambia team. Pray they leave well, and transition to their new setting quickly. Ask for them to richly bless the team.

DEC 12 WEDNESDAY

Zimbabwe – The *Windows of Hope* and *Operation Neighbor Care* AIDS ministries care for hundreds of HIV-infected and affected people. Pray for sustainable interventions that cultivate independence and introduce people to Jesus. Also, pray for reliable rainfall this season.

WEST & SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

DEC 13 THURSDAY

Ministry Focus, E.M., Middle East - For refugees here, discontent and spiritual hunger often go together. We were discussing with one family our trust that my deceased father is now in heaven, when the father of this family brought out a New Testament and other religious books he is reading. He wanted to know if all religions are the same, as that would make it easy. But he is not sure they are, and wonders whether only one is true! He then shared dreams he had years earlier and still doesn't understand, although he feels they are significant. My prayer is, "Father, satisfy him with Your truth, and satisfy his family, too."

DEC 14 FRIDAY

Middle East – Christmas brings opportunities to share the good news with the world. The Middle East has two—on the 25th, and traditional churches celebrate on January 6–7th. Two celebrations, two opportunities; may the seed sown twice find receptive ground and bear fruit.

DEC 15 SATURDAY

Bangladesh – Praise for a joyful November spiritual life conference. The team of more than eighty from over a dozen countries gathered for five days to worship the Lord and encourage each other in unity, and left refreshed and renewed in strength for the work.

DEC 16 SUNDAY

India – A church partner actively works on different social issues and reaches out to the marginalized through many works. Ask God to send more people who support the vision of this church. Pray the church is able to raise a generation of godly disciplers.

Nepal – Please pray for J as she works with artists among an unreached people group in Nepal. Pray more artists would come to faith, and would use their skills to glorify God and share Jesus with others in their communities.

DEC 17 MONDAY

Pakistan – Praise God for the five years Ki Jung and Myung Hee Song directed SIM Pakistan. Praise for the new director, Clive Barker, and his family as they step into the role on January 1st. Pray for rest, refreshment, adjustment, and the Lord's leading for these two families.

DEC 18 TUESDAY

Sri Lanka – Kumar has written a course to strengthen teaching on the authority of the Scriptures in the Church, and is teaching it to thirty-two junior clergy. Pray wisdom for Kumar as he teaches, and for God to create a hunger for righteousness in those who study it.

ASIA-PACIFIC

DEC 19 WEDNESDAY

Ministry Focus, Joshua and Jessica Kidwell, Japan - Churches in Kumamoto held their first interdenominational festival this year! Never before have they come together to sing, play games and share food while also creating a welcoming environment for non-believers. This festival is just one way God is creating unity among churches here. It is largely possible because of the earthquake two years ago that required churches to work closer together. Thank the Lord with us, and pray for continued growth, unity and fruitful ministry for the churches.

DEC 20 THURSDAY

Australia – Praise God and pray for more effective church partnerships. Ask God for more mobilizers to connect and work with churches, enquirers, and applicants so more Australian churches can reach immigrants, refugees, and international students He brings to Australia.

DEC 21 FRIDAY

China – Thank the Lord for more people joining the work. As SIM China seeks to recruit more people who can help fulfill its vision, pray the Lord will especially guide to those who can serve long-term.

Continental & Southeast Asia (CSEA) – CSEA services center provides essential services, including financial, to seven countries. Please pray for two needed financial people for the center. Plead for them to be called and sent to serve together with other colleagues at CSEA soon.

DEC 22 SATURDAY

East Asia – Give thanks for a record number of applicants for long-term service this year. Pray the applicants are equipped to flourish well in their respective ministry locations. Ask God to provide supporters to pray for their needed funds and their ministries.

DEC 23 SUNDAY

Indonesia – The gospel is slowly being sown amongst Indonesia's 240 million Muslims, but the spiritual battle is fierce, and visas are hard to obtain. Pray for Business as Mission (BAM) opportunities for more workers to minister there.

DEC 24 MONDAY

Japan – Pray for planting of fresh seeds and harvest through special Christmas events. May the Christ-child give hope to those devastated by natural disasters across Japan! Ask God to send workers into this massive and complex harvest field.

DEC 25 TUESDAY

Korea – SIM Korea is very soon implementing a training program for mobilizing young adults and churches for mission. Pray this program helps many young adults catch the vision and answer the call to take the gospel to people who have not heard of Jesus.

DEC 26 WEDNESDAY

Mongolia – Praise God for the arrival of A as a new long-term member of the Mongolia team. Rejoice at the encouragement her arrival is to the team. Pray for a smooth adjustment for her, and fruitful ministry opportunities for the whole team.

DEC 27 THURSDAY

Myanmar – Ask God to give unity of thought and practice to the local church and new workers as they build relationships to spread His kingdom. Plead for God to show the Myanmar believers how He wants to use them to share His power to transform their communities.

New Zealand – Praise to our Father for sending Jesus, and for the opportunity to celebrate and share the wonder of His birth with those who do not know Him. Pray all SIM's mission partners, staff, friends and family have a safe and blessed festive season.

DEC 28 FRIDAY

Philippines – Praise God for the October SLC where Dr. Joshua Bogunjoko spoke on *Flourishing Where We Are Called*. Pray 2019 will flourish with the spiritual fruit of many new workers spreading God's Word in places where people do not yet know Jesus.

DEC 29 SATURDAY

Thailand – Praise for the successful early December *Mission in Action 2018* conference in Bangkok, which helped raise awareness and motivate for missions in the Church in Thailand and surrounding countries. Ask the Lord to bring abundant fruit from this conference.

DEC 30 SUNDAY

Vietnam – In January team members will join a local partner to train pastors in Vietnam and a neighboring country on godly roles in marriage and family. Please pray for the training team's safety and the Holy Spirit to use what is taught to transform marriages and families.

DEC 31 MONDAY

West Malaysia – Pray God raises up men and women to reawaken the Malaysian Church to be more passionate about sending and supporting mission workers to share the gospel where Jesus is least known. Praise God for Teen Street, an OM mission youth camp, held annually in November.

Thank you for praying.

If you would like to receive these prayer calendars by email, please reply to simusa.byprayer@sim.org. To update your postal address or request to be added or removed from this mailing, call (800) 521-6449.

Regardless of where you live, or how you celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Savior, all of us at *By Prayer* ask God to bless you through this Christmas season and all through 2019.

Congratulations to Matt and *Linda Hunt* in the SIM UK office and Priscille and *Vincent Wastable* in the SIM France office on the recent birth of a baby into each of their homes. Pray for these two *By Prayer* contributors' families as they learn to be parents.

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'" Isaiah 52:7 ESV

To view the video mentioned in the South Sudan and Sudan request, type this web address in your browser:

<https://tinyurl.com/Ssudanvideo>.

Many missionaries live far away from their families and traditional Christmas celebrations. Pray they joyfully focus on Jesus and sharing the good news of His advent in culturally relevant festivities with people around them.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3 NIV