

By Prayer

May-June 2019

Prayer Focus:

Church partnerships and relationships, seconded missionaries, international churches, and short term missions

Believers grow best within a believing community that encourages them and works together to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to others. Most SIM workers are part of a church that knows them well and supports cross-cultural ministry. An exciting aspect of these relationships is the wide diversity of how different congregations go about the task of sharing Jesus with those, near or far, who do not yet know Him as their Savior. This edition of *By Prayer* will feature a variety of creative relationships among churches and mission organizations around the world that are united in their efforts to illumine the world with the light of Jesus. Join in this grand partnership of bringing the gospel to hard places *by prayer*.

May 2019

MAY 01 WEDNESDAY

International Leadership & Services – Pray for members of International Leadership and Services to have good collaboration as they connect with partner churches and organizations. Ask for them to mutually learn from and support each other and grow in a sense of shared purpose and vision.

MAY 02 THURSDAY

Sports Friends – Praise God for several churches who sent teams to serve with Sports Friends over the last year. They brought much joy and encouragement to the staff, reminding them they are not alone as they seek to share God's good news!

THE AMERICAS

MAY 03 FRIDAY

Ministry Focus, Colin Bakon, Australia - As we prayed how to begin mobilizing the Church in Colombia to see all people on mission with God, He opened the door. It started with one Colombian invited to Ecuador to participate in our Church mobilization course, Kairos. He then invited 18 others to go, who not only participated, but received training as facilitators—our beginning launch team! We held the first Kairos course in Colombia in April 2018. Since then we've trained leaders to continue growing the movement. Pray the desire of these leaders to see their churches involved in missions will be fulfilled.

MAY 04 SATURDAY

Bolivia – Pray for continued good relationships between SIM and the Evangelical Christian Union denomination as they partner in theological education and other areas of ministry.

Canada – Regional Missions Mobilizer Regina Wang engaged this past year with 25 Filipino and Chinese Ontario churches. Pray they embrace and encourage participation in Jesus Christ's vision for global mission, becoming sending agents of laborers both locally and globally.

MAY 05 SUNDAY

Chile – Thank God for ProVisión, SIM's Chilean partner agency serving 26 workers around the world. Pray for candidates as well as those in preparation to lean heavily on God to provide support and guidance through their training for service.

MAY 06 MONDAY

Ecuador – SIM Ecuador is working alongside urban churches in Loja to reach rural communities in that province. Please pray for continued relationships with local churches to grow as the team equips congregations to make disciples.

MAY 07 TUESDAY

Latinoamérica – Please ask God to supply abundant support for Latin American workers. Raising support is especially difficult. Ask for more donors to help finance the SIM Latinoamérica office as well, so staff can continue sending workers.

MAY 08 WEDNESDAY

Paraguay – Pray for Paraguayan churches SIM relates with or started in the interior of the country, and for SIM Paraguay to discern the most effective ways to walk in partnership together, especially in the area of reproducible leadership training.

MAY 9 THURSDAY

Peru – SIM works with a number of churches in areas around Arequipa to provide needy children with breakfast and teaching from God's Word. Pray this program will be effective in helping these churches lead many to Jesus Christ.

MAY 10 FRIDAY

United States – Praise God for our ministry partners. Pray for new strategic opportunities with other agencies and churches to add workers where Jesus is least known. Pray the whole Church in America will joyfully participate in proclaiming Jesus near and far.

Uruguay – Christ Church is a local SIM partner serving a diverse community of Uruguayan and international people. After years of resistance, one member finally brought his two roommates to church. Praise God for this breakthrough and pray for them to know Jesus.

EUROPE, NORTH & WEST AFRICA

MAY 11 SATURDAY

Ministry Focus, W and C, N. Africa - "We shared salt together" sums up how hospitality builds trust in this culture. We decided to offer the studio of our house as a retreat spot, and it gave us moments to connect with brothers and sisters from all over the country who needed time away for refreshment in their walk, or a safe place to hear God's voice or seek healing from past hurts. Some came for outreach. Offering that studio was a very strategic decision. Pray this will broaden our network and deepen our partnership with like-minded friends, for the expansion of God's kingdom in this region.

MAY 12 SUNDAY

France – SIM France-Belgium is preparing materials to help churches plan a special service for the International Day for the Unreached on June 9th to sensitize their community about the need for missionaries. Pray for smooth organization and strong church participation.

MAY 13 MONDAY

Switzerland – SIM Switzerland is facilitating the administration for workers from Eastern Europe. Please pray for good contacts with churches and partner agencies so everything is well organized and the workers are lovingly cared for.

United Kingdom – Praise God for those doing outreach, evangelism and church planting among refugee and migrant communities in Europe under the #HowWillTheyHear campaign! Ask for more refugees to hear the gospel and trust in Jesus. Pray local churches disciple them effectively.

MAY 14 TUESDAY

North Africa – Pray for plans to integrate Trauma Healing into the ongoing activities of a likeminded women's association. Lift up the translation of the adapted version of the Trauma Healing book for the Arab context, due to be available soon.

MAY 15 WEDNESDAY

Benin – Pray for the Golays, seconded to Liweitari Center, a place for pastors to attend seminars or simply come to rest and pray. Damien also leads a Bible study of more than 20 student mechanics and a discipleship class for 6 young people.

MAY 16 THURSDAY

Burkina Faso – Pray as the search for a new director for SIM BF continues. Ask guidance for families homeschooling children in Ouagadougou now that Life Academy has closed down. Pray for the DAI leadership program administered by the Mission Leadership Training College.

MAY 17 FRIDAY

Côte d'Ivoire – The Côte d'Ivoire team serves in three distinct areas. Ask for continued strength, discerning wisdom and encouraging unity for the team. Ask God to send a surgeon for a partner hospital and for Radio Fréquence Vie's extension to be completed.

MAY 18 SATURDAY

Ghana – Cinevan, a partner with SIM Ghana, showed a gospel film with local churches in the Accra region and 351 people accepted Jesus as their Savior. Pray these partner churches maintain effective Christian nurture for these new believers to help them grow in their faith.

MAY 19 SUNDAY

Guinea – SIM Guinea and two other organizations are opening a medical lab, establishing a visible Christian presence in the community. It will provide quality medical diagnostics while sharing Jesus's compassion and His good news. Pray for necessary government approvals.

MAY 20 MONDAY

Liberia – SIM Liberia needs short-term technical advisors to support and train Liberian technicians working daily to keep the ministries at ELWA functioning well. Pray God's call to these workers will bring urgently needed people to serve in Liberia.

MAY 21 TUESDAY

Mali – Pray for wisdom as SIM Mali seeks to put together a short-term program that aims at long-term recruitment. A short-term team from the USA will arrive in June. Pray the Holy Spirit will move their hearts for long-term mission.

MAY 22 WEDNESDAY

Niger – Please pray with SIM Niger for godly men and women who are willing to assume the mantle of leadership and work as part of a team at Niger's health institutions, the MK school, the university center, and on their regional teams.

MAY 23 THURSDAY

Nigeria – SIM Nigeria is thankful to have hosted 17 short-term missionaries last year. Pray God uses those people in their home churches and campuses to promote missions, sparking passion for the Great Commission. Ask God to send more workers!

MAY 24 FRIDAY

Senegal – Thank God for two good partnerships. Several missions help SIM run the English center in Dakar, and Philadelphia churches help with Sports Friends ministries. Ask God to raise up partners to join SIM Senegal in prison ministry in Thiès.

MAY 25 SATURDAY

Togo – SIM is thankful for its good relationship with the ECWA-Togo Church. Pray for continued wisdom as SIM and church leaders work together to provide strategic pastoral and leadership training through teaching sessions, seminars, and the newly formed Bible school.

West African Missions Office – WAMO desires to strengthen its collaboration with church leaders so more West African churches join in sending workers. Pray leaders prepare well and many candidates attend the SIM WAMO Missionary Orientation scheduled for June 3–7.

EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

MAY 26 SUNDAY

Ministry Focus, Peter and Areni Ritchie, Angola - Fran Gralow, seconded from Global Outreach Mission, first felt led to Angola around 1990. God was preparing her to be the answer to long-term prayers of several missionaries for help in literacy among the Nyaneka-Mwila of Southwest Angola. Now, almost 30 years later, she's a key player. She oversees literacy and literature production for 12 church communities, and is involved in the TEE translation revision. She also serves the Nyaneka Bible translators she trained. Pray for wisdom for the translators, and for literacy students to one day read their own Nyaneka Bible!

MAY 27 MONDAY

Angola – SIM Angola is looking forward to a visit from its new regional director, Siegfried Ngubane, in June. Pray this visit serves to establish good rapport and relationships between Siegfried and SIM Angola board members, national church partners, and missionaries.

MAY 28 TUESDAY

Botswana – Praise God for SIM scholarships for AEC church members to obtain theological training. Pray these churches catch the vision to support and send missionaries where Jesus is not known.

MAY 29 WEDNESDAY

East Africa Service Center (EASC) – EASC provides vital financial, health, and project support to SIM workers serving Eritrea, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan, and Tanzania. Pray this specialized staff assists coworkers to thrive in spreading God's good news to those who live without Jesus Christ.

MAY 30 THURSDAY

East African Office – SIM EAO works with five mission-minded organizations. Three families will soon join the two-family team. Pray for smooth collaboration and for all to have teachable spirits and kingdom-minded unity in working to bring the unreached into the kingdom of God.

MAY 31 FRIDAY

Eritrea – Pray for discussions of moving Radio Selamna to a new location outside of Kenya. This will facilitate more involvement from and direct impact to the recipient community. Pray also for the ongoing search for a ministry point person for Eritrea.

June 2019

JUN 01 SATURDAY

Ethiopia – SIM Ethiopia partners with many different missions and works with many different churches. Pray for unity and fruitfulness as they endeavor to take the name of Jesus the Christ where He is least known.

JUN 02 SUNDAY

Kenya – Praise the Lord for supplying a much needed short-term coordinator after four years without specific leadership. Debora Butcher and family will arrive towards the end of 2019. Pray for wisdom and fresh ideas as she restarts this critical role.

Madagascar – Judith visited Madagascar to encourage SIM workers, meet church leaders, and help in the handover of the Timothy Center project to prepare for the departure of the Rabeantoandro family. Pray the meetings strengthen the relationship with SIM's partner churches.

JUN 03 MONDAY

Malawi – Praise God for Pastor Henry Sumbulero who has completed training through SIM in Ethiopia. Celebrate his appointment as the new discipleship coordinator for AEC, SIM's partner church. Pray Henry and SIM worker Kingsley Morris develop a good working relationship.

JUN 04 TUESDAY

Mascarene Islands – The Godins and their church leaders organized a workshop to make clear the different disciplines in godly service for the individual, the Church and the world. Pray God guides the planning team and leaders, and draws many participants to grow through this workshop.

JUN 05 WEDNESDAY

Mozambique – Nine young men coach teams of junior-high boys in soccer. The men meet weekly to discuss how to share Bible stories and incorporate good sports habits and drills in their practices. Pray they and their mentor continue to see fruit in their ministry.

JUN 06 THURSDAY

Namibia – The Evangelical Bible Church sent Steve Ndara to the first training for African Strategic Discipleship Movement (ASDM). Praise for his appointment to now run the program in the church, and for his enthusiasm! Pray ASDM will bless pastors and church members.

JUN 07 FRIDAY

Southern Africa Service Center (SASC) – Pray for the ministry of SASC as it seeks to provide high-quality services in the region and for the ministries it supports. Pray the team adjusts well under the leadership of a new regional director.

JUN 08 SATURDAY

South Africa – Give thanks for the long-term partnerships SIM South Africa enjoys with the ECSA and AEC denominations. Pray the Lord continues to deepen relationships, and for men and women from these churches to be called into service around the world.

South Sudan & Sudan – The Sudan Interior Church desires to send out missionaries. Pray the Lord continues preparing prospective workers. Ask God to abundantly bless the church with funds to support those who desire to tell the good news of Jesus to those who have not heard of Him.

JUN 09 SUNDAY

Tanzania – Pray for Christ-centeredness, team unity, ministerial focus, and fruitfulness as the SIM team welcomes new leadership, helps new teammates adjust to life in Lindi, and says farewell to others. Pray they serve with excellence and the Lord is magnified through it all!

JUN 10 MONDAY

Zambia – Give thanks for the many medical missionaries that come to Zambia through World Medical Mission. Pray these mostly short-term visits greatly benefit patients medically and spiritually, and encourage both the staff and those who volunteer.

JUN 11 TUESDAY

Zimbabwe – Leaders Equipping and Resourcing Network (LEARN) equips Zimbabwean pastors to adequately meet challenging realities. The coordinator is leaving Zimbabwe at the end of 2019. Plead for a new leader, and for pastors to use LEARN to strengthen their congregations.

WEST & SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

Ministry Focus, Kumar Abraham, Sri Lanka - With unanimous agreement of the local Church, God opened doors to begin mobilizing 2,000 volunteers to plant 20,000 trees in September! We are encouraging churches to invite their unbelieving friends so they can build relationships and eventually share the gospel. To communicate how this is about the God of Creation and not Mother Nature, we are writing newspaper articles pointing people to God and the Garden of Eden account of the fall into sin. Pray for the 12 working committees, for momentum to build, volunteers to come, and for God to be glorified.

JUN 12 WEDNESDAY

Middle East – As SIM Middle East serves with and encourages local churches reaching out to their neighbors, members find they learn as well as give. Ask the Lord to give His grace, wisdom and strength to ME churches in their life and witness, often under trying circumstances.

JUN 13 THURSDAY

Bangladesh – Give thanks for the eager pastors and church leaders who attend training courses with SIM's church partnering program. Pray they share what they learn with their members, and their churches use it to share Jesus with the unreached as well.

JUN 14 FRIDAY

India – Praise God for the relationship with SIM's partner church, through which marginalized people like trafficking survivors and HIV+ people are blessed. Please pray for wisdom and discernment as SIM explores partnerships with other organizations and churches.

JUN 15 SATURDAY

Nepal – K teaches spiritual truths and helps with homework at an after-school program with a local urban church. Pray unity and equality expand within the Nepali Church. Pray for humble, servant hearts as teammates serve in local churches.

JUN 16 SUNDAY

Pakistan – Give thanks for the ongoing ministry relationship spanning 60 years of partnership between the Pakistan Christian Fellowship of churches and SIM. Please pray for godly and visionary leadership, and for the desire to open a training center for pastors in the region.

JUN 17 MONDAY

Sri Lanka – SIM is partnering with the Anglican Church in Colombo to mobilize over 2,000 volunteers to plant 20,000 trees to point to God and creation, and use it for friendship evangelism. Pray for momentum to build, for God to meet every need and for Him to be glorified.

ASIA-PACIFIC

JUN 18 TUESDAY

Ministry Focus, J and S, Southeast Asia - It is exciting to see water flowing in the system we are building jointly with the local community, although much remains to be done. Earlier, tension began to grow between us and community members because we had not been able to offer a quick fix to the water needs. Using a culturally appropriate symbol, our local partner led us in a reconciliation ceremony to seek forgiveness from the community. They received our apology, and admitted their part in it as well. Praise God for deep reconciliation, and pray for completion of the project soon and training in safe water use.

Australia – SIM Australia works to strengthen relationships and assist church leaders to establish effective mission ministries to reach out across cultures. Pray for fruitful outcomes from pastors' breakfast meetings, leaders' conferences and other networking opportunities.

JUN 19 WEDNESDAY

China – Thank the Lord for partnerships with local churches. Please pray for safety and sensitivity in these partnerships, and for relationships with them to thrive. Ask for the team and their partners to work well together to reach and teach more.

JUN 20 THURSDAY

Continental & Southeast Asia (CSEA) – Please pray for long-term, fruitful partnerships with like-minded international NGO and missional businesses in Mongolia, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Pray unreached communities are reached, and seconded members are strengthened by these partnerships.

JUN 21 FRIDAY

East Asia – Many churches in East Asia send missionaries directly to the field. Pray for wisdom from above when SIM is called upon to advise some of these churches. Pray for open doors for SIM to partner with them and be a blessing to these churches and workers.

JUN 22 SATURDAY

Indonesia – Henry and Janet Armstrong coordinate SIM's Indonesia ministries to help new SIM workers gain cultural knowledge and acquire visas. Pray for wisdom as they help qualified workers come to assist the Church in reaching the large population of another world religion.

JUN 23 SUNDAY

Japan – Please pray for the Global Leader Intern (GLI) program. Short-term workers from North America, Europe, and other parts of Asia are spending two months partnering with a Japanese seminary to study and do cross-cultural ministry alongside Japanese believers.

JUN 24 MONDAY

Korea – SIM Korea asks prayer guidance for the developers of a training program for recruiting young people. Ask God to call many young adults to join the program and commit themselves for long- or short-term mission service.

JUN 25 TUESDAY

Mongolia – Praise God for an abundant supply of workers. SIM Mongolia has been investing in a number of short-term visitors on vision trips. Plead for God to call them to Mongolia or other fields. Praise God for the chance to partner with Him to mobilize these young people.

JUN 26 WEDNESDAY

Myanmar – SIM Myanmar is building new ministry partnerships. Ask for all parties to focus on furthering God's kingdom together. Pray for clear understandings so a strong foundation of unity can be established for long-term partnerships.

JUN 27 THURSDAY

New Zealand – Please pray for a number of mission partners starting on the field, going on home assignment, or finishing their term. Pray as they adjust to the changes and for them to find peace in knowing God is in control. Pray also for safe travels.

JUN 28 FRIDAY

Philippines – Pray for the review and renewal of SIM Philippines' partnership with another mission organization in one of the ethnic communities. Pray for the strengthening of their relationships with local churches and other organizations, too.

Thailand – Praise God for the First Church in Chiang Mai as members engage in sending Thai missionaries. Their first missionary family serves with SIM in a neighboring country. Pray they will continue to grow in their vision to reach the nations.

JUN 29 SATURDAY

Vietnam – Praise God for new areas of training in Vietnam, including workshops on marriage and chaplaincy. Please pray for transformed lives as students learn principles for living from God's Word and how to bring God's love to others who are in crisis and trauma.

JUN 30 SUNDAY

West Malaysia – Praise God for the partnership with El Shaddai, a ministry to refugees and asylum-seekers. Dr. Kevin Higgins, of William Carey University, will be the keynote speaker at The National Diaspora Symposium on September 26-28th. Pray plans to co-host go smoothly.

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.

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known ... according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord." Ephesians 3:10-11 NIV

Because you prayed: "Pray for Teachers" was in February. A principal reported, "One applicant just randomly walked onto our campus. We have a number of new applicants and the lowest teacher turnover in 5 years." Also, a student-sparked revival spread throughout the 4th grade.

Praying for Missionaries: Many times staff at the SIM USA office hear comments about how much missionaries on the field appreciate *By Prayer*. "It is SO important to have people praying," or "We always use *By Prayer* in our family prayers." Be encouraged, and keep praying!

"When we pray we are not merely distant or feeble petitioners. We are starting to take up our responsibility as God's image-bearing human beings, sharing God's rule over creation."—N. T. Wright

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better." Ephesians 1:17 NIV

"Mission activity without prayer is just religious activity."—Charlie Thorsen