By Prayer
July-August 2020

Prayer Focus:
Spiritual vitality through intentional growth, SIM office staff, missionary recruitment, support, and re-entry

In John 15:5 Jesus said, “I am the vine and you are the branches...for apart from me you can do nothing.” The key to maintaining our spiritual vitality is a strong intentional connection to Jesus. Internal spiritual communion overflows in loving obedience to God's call on our lives. We can grow through Bible studies or Bible courses, attending spiritual retreats or exercising spiritual disciplines. In this edition we will read about many who have answered God's call to medical work, teaching, discipleship, providing relief to traumatized communities, counseling and encouraging workers, and support ministries. We hope you delight in the Lord and are encouraged in your spiritual growth as you journey through this edition, by prayer.

JULY 2020

JUL 01 WEDNESDAY
International Leadership & Services – This year has been marked by unexpected upheaval, transitions and relocations. Pray for SIM workers to be strengthened and encouraged, and to grow more like Jesus as they devote time to pray and meditate on the Word.

JUL 02 THURSDAY
Sports Friends – Pray for Sports Friends coaches all around the world as they look for creative ways to boldly disciple the young people on their teams. Pray they would continue to point many youth and their families to Jesus!

JUL 03 FRIDAY
Faithful Witness Program – Praise God for many workers joining teams through this initiative. Workers from Peru, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Australia, the US and Northeast India have joined so far. Pray for more workers to join them and for unity within these diverse teams.

THE AMERICAS

JUL 04 SATURDAY
Ministry Focus, Mike and Lori Rosenbauer, USA – Last fall we joined the services team at SIM USA, supporting fellow missionaries who pass through our office en route to and from the field. World evangelism is a huge job, and frontline missionaries are needed. Equally important are those in supporting roles. Sustained support from the home base is a key to long-term success. We experienced this fact during our years of ministry in South Africa. Pray for individuals to realize how strategic it can be to support missionaries manning the supply lines and pray the Lord will bless our ministry here at SIM USA.

JUL 05 SUNDAY
Bolivia – Bolivia’s Spiritual Life Conference is postponed because of COVID-19. Pray workers carry on in their ministries, staying healthy and experiencing the Holy Spirit’s enabling power. Pray for wisdom for the SLC committee as they re-schedule the conference.

JUL 06 MONDAY
Canada – Many SIM members unexpectedly returned home and face questions about what to do now, and uncertainty for the future. Pray pastoral care workers Dave and Marianne Ruten wisely help them discern how to use their time, and daily depend on God for love, joy and peace.

EUROPE, NORTH & WEST AFRICA

JUL 10 FRIDAY
Peru – Peru’s Country Director and Personnel Coordinator (husband and wife team) will be leaving the field in December. Please pray for God’s provision of the right people for these important positions and for wisdom and guidance as they are trained and prepared.

JUL 11 SATURDAY
United States – Praise God for U.S. Director Randy Fairman’s great start, even with a global crisis. Pray for God's help in strategic planning and implementation. Pray the U.S. Church will grow more passionate about kingdom work and seek opportunities to participate.

JUL 12 SUNDAY
Uruguay – Alejandra (San Salvador) and the Hutchisons are in Uruguay as short-term workers. Due to COVID-19 they are having to minister online. Pray the team can wisely guide and encourage them so they can get a true picture of Uruguay and its people.

JUL 13 MONDAY
Ministry Focus, Daniel and Malata Salamu, WAMO – In December, a West African couple and their son went to serve in Mali. They are part of the “Faithful Witness” team that will evangelize a community that has never heard the gospel. We can testify to the commitment and conviction this couple has for their new community in Mali. Praise God for their safe three-day journey and warm hospitality received from fellow SIM missionaries along the route. The team in Mali has welcomed them as well. Pray the Lord will enable them to learn the culture and language and use them for His glory and praise.

JUL 14 TUESDAY
France – SIM France-Belgium had to cancel the Spiritual Life Conference scheduled the first week of July, due to COVID-19. Pray workers who planned to attend are refreshed anyway and intentionally create renewing fellowship experiences.
JUL 15 WEDNESDAY
Switzerland – Four of the eight team members working in the Swiss office (mostly part time) will retire in the next two years. Pray the Lord will add the right people at the right time so the team can fulfill the task He has given them well.

JUL 16 THURSDAY
United Kingdom – Give thanks for a time of spiritual refreshment and encouragement for the UK-sent mission workers who joined the UK home staff for ‘Home Assignment retreat’ this week. Pray God continues to provide blessed times of rest and guidance before they return to the field.

JUL 17 FRIDAY
North Africa – People at risk in North Africa include women in prison. Pray for SIM’s partners as they minister to their needs, tend to their loneliness and train them for gainful employment. Pray Jesus will transform their lives.

JUL 18 SATURDAY
Benin – SIM’s partner Bible Schools (Lokpa, Bariba, Ditamari, Boo, Fulani, French) were forced to suspend classes in April and May. Pray for wisdom and resources in keeping school communities safe from the coronavirus while making up classroom work that was missed.

JUL 19 SUNDAY
Burkina Faso – Many of the SIM Burkina Faso team have unexpectedly returned to their home countries. For both those who are away and those who remain, pray for peace in their current situations as they seek to serve well where God has placed them.

JUL 20 MONDAY
Côte d’Ivoire – Thank God for Radio Fréquence Vie as it continues to faithfully broadcast church services, Bible studies and other encouraging programming throughout the quarantine. Pray the programs feed those who are hungry and encourage the faithful.

JUL 21 TUESDAY
Ghana – Praise God for the SIM director who has led Ghana with godly wisdom for two years. Pray office administration workers would be safe as they run errands, have joy as they work and are encouraging as they assist and lead the team to fulfill their ministries.

Guinea – As SIM Guinea focuses on spiritual vitality and growth this month, pray the team will keep growing in love for God and people, keep rejoicing in the Lord, keep resting in their peace in Christ, and keep serving people.

JUL 22 WEDNESDAY
Liberia – Pray for SIM Liberia leadership as they evaluate conditions, making decisions about when and how long-term missionaries on Home Assignments will return when travel becomes available. Pray these workers will remain encouraged as they wait for God’s timing.

JUL 23 THURSDAY
Mali – A discipleship program is being held at J’s home and a local congregation is conducting a leadership program. Pray the Lord will use these ministries to transform the participants so they will grow in their faith and tell others about Jesus.

JUL 24 FRIDAY
Niger – Pray for high school graduates beginning life as young adults in unfamiliar countries. Due to COVID-19 they didn’t have traditional goodbyes to the people and life they are leaving. Pray their roots grow deep into God’s love during this transitional time.

Nigeria – Distance learning summer classes at Jos ECWA Theological Seminary (JETS) are finished. Praise for accomplished learning. Pray solutions are found for glitches that occurred. Pray students can pay school fees since the pandemic and ultra-low oil prices make it hard.

JUL 25 SATURDAY
Senegal – Praise God! A group of Wolof young ladies is using the Discovery Bible Study approach, systematically working through the Gospel of Mark. Pray they continue to spend time in the Word during self-isolation, with opportunities to share with both family and others.

JUL 26 SUNDAY
Togo – The pastors and elders of ECWA-Togo (SIM-related denomination) are involved in two to three training seminars each year. Pray for an increase in Biblical knowledge and pastoral skills, but even more for spiritual growth resulting in Spirit-filled daily lives.

JUL 27 MONDAY
West African Missions Office (WAMO) – Pray God uses COVID-19 to send workers where Jesus is least known. Pray for wisdom in timing and format for planned orientation for new workers in light of travel advisories and restrictions. Pray God will provide for WAMO workers struggling with support levels.

JUL 28 WEDNESDAY
Ministry Focus, Michael Knight, Namibia – Students in my Youth Ministry class at Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary mentor one teen for four sessions during the semester and journal about it. One student had no interest in working with teens, but as she met with and showed interest in her teen friend, she began to feel like a guardian, wanting to help this friend grow and discover God’s plans for life. My students also learn the issues Namibian youth deal with today and how to teach them to respond to stresses in healthy ways. Pray our graduates will be effective in youth ministry, used by God.

JUL 29 WEDNESDAY
Angola – The leadership of the theological college (ISTEL) in Lubango needs wisdom navigating the remaining academic year. Visits of professors from outside Angola are in jeopardy, affecting both bachelor and master programs. Ask God to reveal His plan for the rest of 2020.

Botswana – When the country went into lockdown due to COVID-19, Paul prepared Bible teaching videos to send out to local Christians. Pray they would help people to grow in their faith and closer to God.

JUL 30 THURSDAY
East Africa Service Center (EASC) – Continue to pray for the strength and protection of the EASC team as it provides essential services throughout the impact of COVID-19.

JUL 31 FRIDAY
East African Office - Praise God for East African churches recruiting workers to go and serve. Pray the local church community, friends and family eagerly and prayerfully engage in supporting their missionaries with all that is necessary to reach those who do not know Jesus.

August 2020

AUG 01 SATURDAY
Eritrea – An Eritrean pastor suffers from chronic health problems. Pray for complete healing for him. Pray also for a ministry coordinator for Eritrea.

AUG 02 SUNDAY
Ethiopia – Pray SIM Ethiopia would grow spiritually during this difficult time of so many unknowns. Pray all missionaries and staff would be intentional about seeking the face of God and listening to His voice. Pray for their eyes to be opened to new opportunities around them.
Kenya – Praise the Lord for SIM office staff’s opportunity to read the New Testament chapter by chapter in morning devotions. Thank God for their joy in what they are learning in such familiar words. Pray their hearts continue to grow closer to the Author of the Word.

AUG 03 MONDAY
Madagascar – COVID-19 travel limits prevented the Good News Hospital from receiving additional doctors. Meeting restrictions stopped church or small group meetings. Pray hospital staff continue to hear the Lord’s guiding and supporting voice in the aftermath of the pandemic.

AUG 04 TUESDAY
Malawi – The Evangelical Bible College of Malawi (EBCOM) trains pastors for churches including the church that partners with SIM. Pray wisdom for the college principal, the board and three SIM missionaries on staff to know how to solve the ongoing financial struggle.

AUG 05 WEDNESDAY
Mascarene Islands – Children are doing school online for the first time and some families do not have internet, a computer, smartphone or TV. Pray they can get their schoolwork done. Pray the government makes wise decisions to help the economy recover quickly and well from COVID-19.

AUG 06 THURSDAY
Mozambique – Please pray for a missionary family separated from their teenage son during this COVID-19 crisis. They are looking for a way to reunite but it has been difficult with travel restrictions.

AUG 07 FRIDAY
Namibia – The theological seminary has been teaching online. Pray students’ internet connections remain strong and they use their time wisely studying in these strange times. Pray also for contact with young Namibians interested in missions to stay intact.

AUG 08 SATURDAY
Southern Africa Service Center (SASC) – Praise God for limiting COVID-19 so far in most of Southern Africa. Pray God continues to guide both government leaders to protect all communities (especially the vulnerable), and SIM leaders as they collaborate in taking care of teams and members worldwide.

AUG 09 SUNDAY
South Africa – Intentional discipleship of Christian leaders is going on in Senegal and with Jameelah ladies in South Africa. Pray these vital ministries continue throughout the impact of COVID-19 and workers will call on God’s resources to carry out their ministries effectively.

AUG 10 MONDAY
South Sudan & Sudan – Pray for more workers to join the field in South Sudan. Pray the Lord shows the team what He is doing in the country.

AUG 11 TUESDAY
Tanzania – Ask for wisdom in helping brothers and sisters stand firm in their faith in Christ Jesus through their struggles, physical or spiritual. Pray for inspiration and creativity in being Jesus’ hands and feet so interactions will be practical lessons in discipleship.

AUG 12 WEDNESDAY
Zambia – SIM Zambia’s Spiritual Life Conference was postponed to this week. Tom and Ramonda Lunsford, who serve with the African Strategic Discipleship Movement, are sharing on the theme of “Equipped for Endurance.” Pray this is a time of renewal and challenge for the team.

AUG 13 THURSDAY
Zimbabwe – Praise God for His perfect timing for the transition from workers of 17 years to a new couple coming to pick up the ministry. Thanksgiving also for God’s schedule and place for Zimbabwe’s Spiritual Life Conference this year.

AUG 14 FRIDAY
Ministry Focus, SIM worker, U.K. – Families who are refugees are coming to our church, and we long to see the ladies integrate with others. Several local women expressed interest in building friendships with them, so we started a “Ladies Bible study” where local women translate and most take turns leading. Because these ladies fear for their families left behind in homelands, we now have online meetings to share and pray to help them focus on the Lord and find peace in Him. When I can visit in the home, they do open their hearts. Pray these ladies will want to begin studying the Word.

AUG 15 SATURDAY
Middle East – Praise God for people who have expressed interest in the Middle East in recent months, several of whom are now preparing to join the Middle East team. Please continue to pray for more workers – the doors are open, and opportunities are plentiful.

AUG 16 SUNDAY
Bangladesh – Ask God to supply wisdom for the Bangladesh team so it can effectively minister throughout the impact of COVID-19 and provide appropriate relief to project beneficiaries.

AUG 17 MONDAY
India – SIM partner Ezra Project started its next module in its theological course in July. Please pray they will be able to smoothly run the program in a gathered group despite complications from COVID-19.

AUG 18 TUESDAY
Nepal – G shows great spiritual growth and leadership potential. Pray she will be able to take over leadership of the women’s fellowship in her church. Pray for DR, a believer who has grown over the past two years, but is facing family pressure to marry outside the church.

Pakistan – Please pray with the team in Pakistan as it seeks to nurture the vision for cross-cultural mission that God is giving to His church there. Pray for wisdom to know how best to serve Pakistan’s communities together.

AUG 19 WEDNESDAY
Sri Lanka – Please pray, in these days of stress and fear around the world in the wake of COVID-19, for God to raise laborers for the harvest fields. Ask especially for Sri Lanka where there is a dire need. Plead for a desperately needed counselor/lecturer by January 2021.

WES & SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

AUG 14 FRIDAY
Ministry Focus, SIM worker, U.K. – Families who are refugees are coming to our church, and we long to see the ladies integrate with others. Several local women expressed interest in building friendships with them, so we started a “Ladies Bible study” where local women translate and most take turns leading. Because these ladies fear for their families left behind in homelands, we now have online meetings to share and pray to help them focus on the Lord and find peace in Him. When I can visit in the home, they do open their hearts. Pray these ladies will want to begin studying the Word.

AUG 20 THURSDAY
Ministry Focus, Pete and Kathryn McCarthy, Australia – On home assignment, I began to show signs of burnout. I threw myself into making art from unfinished works, saved materials, and notes from my DTH thesis—research that now seemed “wasted” since we wouldn’t be returning to Burkina Faso. Dissected notes became patterns, then works, and artmaking brought healing and direction in a time of turmoil. The Lord provided gallery space to exhibit my work, sharing my story with strangers. Pray the Lord opens doors to share the gospel through art in our new country of service.
AUG 21 FRIDAY
**Australia** – Thanks to God for technology, enabling SIM Australia to continue its office functions and ministry in new ways despite the pandemic. Pray it reaches more enquirers willing to serve long term and trust God to provide for all their needs.

AUG 22 SATURDAY
**China** – The Cross-Cultural Training center prepares Chinese workers for service beyond China. Pray these workers will be fully equipped to serve Him effectively wherever the Lord sends them.

AUG 23 SUNDAY
**East Asia** - The ten country offices under SIM East Asia are focused on mobilization, recruitment and back-up services. Pray for wisdom in reaching the new-gen and drawing them into long-term missions. Pray for continued partnership and support from churches post COVID-19.

AUG 24 MONDAY
**Indonesia** – Indonesia’s Protestant churches make up only 7% of the population. Pray God increases their missions awareness and they enthusiastically respond to the vision and challenge to send more workers to least-reached peoples in Indonesia and beyond.

AUG 25 TUESDAY
**Korea** – Praise God for opportunities workers, who are staying in Korea due to COVID-19, have to visit churches and report on their ministries. Pray these reports would spark a pouring out of the Holy Spirit in these churches to send more workers where Jesus is least known.

AUG 26 WEDNESDAY
**Mongolia** – During the Outbreak of COVID-19, many churches have no choice but to halt the Sunday services. Pray church leaders can continue to have small group Bible studies with their members through the use of social media so everyone can keep growing spiritually.

AUG 27 THURSDAY
**Myanmar** – Praise God for people who are developing a new business to produce prosthetics for those who need them. Pray for this initiative to be a means for the good news of Jesus to heal the hearts of many who do not know Him.

AUG 28 FRIDAY
**New Zealand** – Pray for SIM NZ as it adjusts to the new normal of living in the wake of COVID-19. Pray churches and mission partners creatively continue their ministry whatever their situation. Pray those hoping to go and those on the field maintain health and safety.

AUG 29 SATURDAY
**Philippines** – SIM’s discipleship ministry is relying on social media to follow up and reach out to members of discipleship groups. Pray for those who do not have internet access. Ask God to keep a firm foundation in all group members and for all to continue growing spiritually.

AUG 30 SUNDAY
**Thailand** – SIM Thailand’s long-term missionary recruitment process for new missionaries is delayed due to COVID-19. Pray new members would be able to raise the required financial support in these tough economic times and join the work according to His plan and will.

**Vietnam** – Due to COVID-19 several training events were cancelled and SIM’s training partners were under stay-at-home orders. Please pray for God’s provision and protection for them and guidance in working to rebuild the remainder of the 2020 training schedule.

AUG 31 MONDAY
**West Malaysia** – Praise God for His protection over all West Malaysia’s workers. Pray the team uses wisdom and courage as it develops new ways to support workers and foster continuing spiritual growth in challenges. Ask support for missions, recruits and workers to remain strong.

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.

Please keep in mind the rapidly changing environment caused by COVID-19 as you pray through this edition. Graciously apply godly wisdom in praying for events that may be happening very differently than presented.

“And you are helping us by praying for us. Then many people will give thanks because God has graciously answered so many prayers for our safety.” 2 Corinthians 1:11 NLT