

PRAYER GUIDE

DECEMBER 2023



FROM THE DESK...

Hello Friends,

This is the month we anticipate and then celebrate the advent of our God who was willing to literally put some "skin in the game" and became human in all ways like us, not only to redeem us but to include us in His great mission of redeeming humanity.

As we practice our core value of prayer this December may God's Holy Spirit renew our vision to be a movement of God around the block and around the globe.

Go tell it on the mountains that Jesus Christ is born!

Randy Sizemore
Bishop

The Great Redemption Mission

Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus,

As Bishop Randy has expressed in his greeting this month, we indeed celebrate our God and that we should,

Go tell it on the mountains that Jesus Christ is born!

This year our primary focus for our Prayer Guides has been emphasizing the GMC's mission of nurturing a global vision in the EC Church and supporting the work of the Kingdom around the globe by resourcing and engaging the local church we call the EC Church USA. We've highlighted the ministries of our international EC churches, our missionaries, trips we've taken, places we've spoken, camps and rallies we've been a part of, celebrated the addition of new missionaries to our team, are expectant of a great number of Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to be sent around the world, and look forward with anticipation to 2024 of all the Lord will do in and through the Global Ministries Community to be on mission with Christ to reach His world.

If you attended National Conference this past year, or have had Bishop Randy at your church, you have heard his vision of seeing the EC Church become a movement of God. The Evangelical Congregational Church derives from a move of God in the heart of a simple and broken German tiler as he sought comfort and hope in a time of need. As a result of the Spirit of God moving in his heart, God has expanded a small German-speaking group of churches to a movement that now spans the globe and speaks many languages. When we think about becoming a "movement of God" today we are simply seeking to recapture what enlivened the EC Church USA through Jacob Albright, and what remains the driving force of many of our EC churches globally.

(continued on back page...)

GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMUNITY

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Facilitating Mission Workers
Empowering National Churches
Engaging the Local Church

Connect with us!



@GMC.ECChurch



To know how your church can partner directly with an EC missionary or an International Church, call the GMC office at 717-866-7581, x1109 or email ecglobal@eccenter.com.

Every year more churches are being planted in Nepal, India, and Liberia, and missionaries are being sent to Ghana, to Myanmar, to Bhutan, Bangladesh, and all over the vast country of India.

It's our hope that we, too, (the EC Church USA) capture the same missionary spirit that courses through the veins of our international churches who continue to baptize new believers, build churches, ordain pastors, and expand the Kingdom through their sacrificial obedience to sharing the story of redemption in their cities, towns, villages, and beyond; as well as the passion for God and the zeal of our EC missionaries who daily walk alongside of and minister to those who desperately need the loving embrace of their Creator Redeemer.

Will you join the GMC this December with your prayers for all our international churches and EC missionaries, as well as your financial blessings for our Christmas Missions Offering, Sunday, December 17, 2023? The funds from that offering will go directly to the GMC General Fund which affords us opportunities to meet immediate needs, provide assistance for things above and beyond the expected, and prepare places and spaces for God's children to meet, be encouraged and equipped, and houses of worship to meet with God. What a partnership that will be!



Click [HERE](#) to see a video celebrating the Kingdom work being done all around the world - because Jesus Christ Reigns!



Ted Rathman

December 1-8 This week praise God for...

- His great love for the world that He'd send His Son to seek and save the lost
- Jesus!
- the safe travel all year for the many trips to visit our international churches and missionaries traveling to and from the field
- those who have come to faith in Jesus Christ through our international churches and missionary fields around the world
- the many churches being raised up around the world, many in difficult and challenging areas and environments

December 17-24 This week pray for the Global Ministries director, staff & board...

- to be filled with joy and hope as they plan for 2024
- to continue to foster the vision of the Global Ministries Community to the EC Church USA
- to believe God to provide for the bold, God-sized vision and mission initiatives for the GMC for 2024
- to develop and cultivate valued relationships with missions leaders and teams in our local EC churches
- to care for our missionaries well
- to help encourage and train up our international church pastors and leaders

December 9-16 This week pray for the local church USA to...

- catch the vision of nurturing a global vision and to be on mission with Christ to reach His world
- pray for the next generation of missionaries to hear the call of God to step into the ministry He has planned for them
- begin to seek opportunities to reach their local communities and neighbors
- adopt an international EC church to support
- consider increasing support for a missionary or begin supporting an additional one

December 25-31 Pray for missionaries...

- **Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe, Randy & Chrisanne Amberman, Ron & Brenda Anderson, Chris & Deb Bowers**
- **Jamie & Anita Farr, Beth Grimm, Dan & Melinda Moury**
- **Dan Quigley, Dave & Conce Roof, Robert & Bettina Schaeffer, Ed & Valerie Schubert**
- **Ken Sears, Gloria Smethers, Jim & Janet Stahl**
- **Gene & Bethanie Stevenson, Lamar & Janice Stoltzfus, Joe & Wendy Toy, Brian & Missy Wagner**
- **Cassie Wells, BJ & Rachel Whitaker, Dan & Mary Lynne Wills, Jonathan & Kathy Wilson**

Click [HERE](#) to donate now to an EC Missionary.



6 - Sue Haglund* 13 - Dan Moury 28 - Janet Stahl 31 - Gloria Smethers

*retired