

► **Oops!** You may have noticed that there was nothing on the February prayer guide for February 29<sup>th</sup>. I forgot to check the calendar and didn't realize this was a leap year. Mea culpa! Hope you took the opportunity to pray for one of our missionaries and/or international churches.

► Keep the **EC Church of India** in prayer as they will be electing a new General Director at their annual conference next month (April). Pray for **Rev. Kaitinkap Vaiphei**, the current General Director, that he will clearly know where God would have him serve when his term is finished.

► **Rev. Ron Anderson**, who serves under ECMI as a church planting consultant in Spain, also works with the Lausanne Movement. He spent 10 days in Ethiopia (February 7-17) working with pastors there in a church planting network consultation. Ron reports that Ethiopia has seen tremendous growth in churches, and there is great spiritual hunger there to know the Word. Praise!

► **SAVE THE DATE!** The Global Ministries Community will once again be sponsoring a **Delaware Region Missions Brunch** this spring. The date is Thursday morning, March 26<sup>th</sup>, the time is 10 a.m. – noon, and the location this year will again be **Hope Community Church in Fogselsville**. Brian & Missy Wagner will be sharing with us, and GMC Associate Rev. Ted Rathman will be bringing highlights about our international churches as well as his recent trip to Liberia.

Reservations are necessary so we can get a head count for the food. There is no charge, but an offering to offset the cost of the food will be taken. More information will be sent out by email and hard copy soon. Save the date and hope to see you there!

► **Tomoyuki & Jessica Abe** along with their two daughters will be visiting the USA in July. They will be staying at the Lititz Missionary apartment for that time, but have need of a vehicle so they can visit churches. If anyone has a car they are willing to loan for a month, please contact Pat at the Global Ministries office. Phone – (717) 866-7584, or [email ecglobal@eccenter.com](mailto:email_ecglobal@eccenter.com).

► We have heard that mail sent to retired missionary **Gwen Melger** is being returned as 'attempted, not known.' At this time, we don't have any other contact information for Miss Melger. Please do not send any mail until we can determine if she has moved to a new location or even is still alive. Thank you.

► **Rev. Ken Sears** had to change his plans to return to Ukraine in mid-January due to some health issues that emerged. Thankfully, they were able to be controlled with some changes to medication he takes, and he was able to return to Ukraine at the end of January. Ken would appreciate prayers for good health as he returns to a busy schedule at Zaporozhye Bible College.

► **Rev. Joe Toy** would like prayer coverage for his spring break outreach in Miami from March 13-22 with Liberty University students. Joe often works with university students to train them in open air evangelism techniques.

► **Beth Grimm** is developing and giving a NILD webinar early this month, as well as helping to host the NILD regional conference in Lancaster, PA later this month. She would appreciate prayer to have the stamina to get everything done on time. This is a lot of responsibility, so prayers that all goes well would be appreciated.



## WHY?

Any parent will tell you that, along with the Terrible Twos, one of the most annoying periods in a young child's life is the 'Why' period. Usually somewhere around 3-4 years of age, a child becomes very inquisitive; "Why is the sky blue?"; "Why do the flowers die when I pick them?" These questions progress to rebellion; "Why do I have to go to bed now?"; "Why can't I do what I want?" The answer "Because I said so" only works for a short time.

Unfortunately, we never seem to outgrow that stage of rebellious questioning when it comes to our relationship with God. Often we ask 'why' when something tragic or hurtful happens to us or the ones we love. "Why did God allow my mother to die of cancer?"; "why did he allow a young father to be killed by a drunk driver"; and on and on the list goes. When things don't go the way we think they should, we ask God, "Why?!"

Mankind has been asking God "Why?" for a long time. Moses, Abraham, David – all asked God "Why?" at some point or another. Moses couldn't understand why God wanted him to lead Israel out of captivity, Abraham asked how he could be the father of nations when he didn't even have a son, David asked why, if he was God's anointed, he was pursued by the armies of Saul.

In the New Testament, the apostles couldn't understand when Jesus told him he had to die. They had finally realized he was the Messiah, and now he was talking about leaving; it didn't make sense. Why, why, why.

And, like a patient parent, God the Father points us back through his Word, to show us how this was the plan from the very beginning. He gave us free choice, but he knew what our choice would be. So he provided the means for us to be reconciled with him through his Son, who came to earth in human form, lived among us, ate and laughed and cried with us, and when the time came, died for us.

In times of anger, fear or sorrow, our human (sin) nature will often ask God 'why'. David answers his own question, and ours in Psalm 27 13; "I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." It's human to question, but believers are to trust and obey. As we look at our God's track record throughout scripture and history, He always shows us that he loves and cares for us. We don't have to ask why.

Pat Strain

# EC GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



# MARCH 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> <b>Dan &amp; Melinda Moury</b> – serving as videographer for Wycliffe at their Orlando FL headquarters</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Pray for <b>Yoriyoshi &amp; Emiko Abe</b>, church planters in Ebina, Japan – expecting new baby this month</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Pray for all those planning to lead or participate in a <b>short term missions trip</b> this summer. Pray that God will use them mightily to bless others.</p>	<p>4</p> <p><b>David &amp; Conce Roof</b> – working with Moju River ministry in northern Brazil as OMS church planters</p>	<p>5</p> <p><b>David Hershey</b> – campus minister with CSF at both Penn State – Berks and Brandywine campuses</p>	<p>6  – Rev. Dr. David Dick</p> <p>Pray for the <b>Stationing Committee</b> as it prayerfully tries to find good fits for churches and pastors so they flourish</p>	<p>7</p> <p><b>David Dick</b> – working on Dr. Wesley Duewel's autobiography for OMS</p>
<p>8</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> <b>Self Denial offering</b> – your sacrificial giving helps our international churches to reach the world with the Gospel</p>	<p>9  – Joan Farr *</p> <p>Pray for <b>Bishop Bruce Hill</b> and the planning committee for National Conference, that all will be ready to go before May</p>	<p>10</p> <p><b>Global Ministries Community spring board meeting</b> – pray we can get everything done on the agenda</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Pray for <b>Rev. Th. Janga</b>, field leader of the EC Church of Nepal, as he trains new pastors and church leaders</p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Randy &amp; Chris Amberman</b> – serving with WGM in Navajo country; after school clubs</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pray for <b>Rev. Kaitinkap Vaiphei</b>, finishing his term as General Director of the EC Church of India</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pray for <b>Rev. Dr. Gary Kuehner</b>, Church Health Associate –giving our churches info on how to prosper</p>
<p>15</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for <b>Rev. Abraham Powell</b>, bishop of the EC Church of Liberia, as he provides leadership</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Ron &amp; Brenda Anderson</b> – exciting things happening in church planting in Spain</p>	<p>17  – Rev. Ron Anderson</p> <p><b>Ivy Limbert</b> – teaching MK's at Black Forest Academy in Germany</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Pray for our <b>missionaries</b> and pastors who are dealing with health problems</p>	<p>19</p> <p><b>National Ministry Team meeting</b> – pray for those making decisions for our denomination</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pray for the <b>missionaries</b> struggling with loss of support funds</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Pray for <b>Janet Baker</b>, retired missionary living in Lebanon, PA – ongoing health issues</p>
<p>22</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> <b>Kurt G.</b> – training young men to share the Gospel in closed access countries – health issues for Kurt and Nancy</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>Chris &amp; Deb Bowers</b> – serving in Washington state, training missionary pilots &amp; working with their wives</p>	<p>24  – Marcia Hopler *</p> <p>Pray for <b>Rev. Juan Zuñiga</b>, Superintendent of the EC Church of Latin America, that he will help the churches to move forward</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Pray for <b>Major Josh Metz</b>, serving as a chaplain in the US Army, stationed in Missouri</p>	<p>26  – Cheyne Schubert (2005) – Lily Rathman (2010)</p> <p>Pray for <b>Eunice Wanjema</b>, retired missionary living in Kijabe, Kenya</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Jamie &amp; Anita Farr</b> – serving at Wycliffe's headquarters in Orlando, FL – Jamie heads four departments</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Pray that our <b>missionaries</b> won't be discouraged by lack of results in their work or outreaches</p>
<p>29</p> <p><b>PRAYER NEEDS</b> Pray for <b>Rev. Nobuo Abe</b>, Chairman of the EC Church of Japan – for wisdom and vision</p>	<p>30</p> <p><b>Beth Grimm</b> – diagnosing and helping MK's with learning disabilities</p>	<p>31  – B. Micah Wagner (2001)</p> <p>Pray for the <b>persecuted church</b>, especially in Iran and Iraq</p>	<p><b>ANNIVERSARIES</b> March 8 – David &amp; Conce Roof March 22 – Rev. Joe &amp; Wendy Toy March 25 – David &amp; Emily Hershey  April 4 – Chris &amp; Debbie Bowers</p>		<p><b>BIRTHDAYS</b> April 1 – Mary Reimer * April 5 (2007) – Abigail Farr April 12 – Debbie Bowers</p>	

\*DENOTES RETIREE