

Outreach and Missions
Missionary, Supported Workers and Ministry Partners
September/October 2020 Prayer and Praise Requests

Wesley & Nicole Marshall, Church Planter—Cape Town, South Africa

Praise:

- For the way God has worked in their church plant during such uncertain times, including bringing together a core team of people, providing resources for the work entailed, and providing co-laborers in the Gospel who are praying for His work there in the East City.

Pray:

- For their church as they move toward launching their public gatherings officially in January 2021.
- That God would open the right door as they are looking for a place to meet. They are currently gathering in their home, and they are getting too large for that.
- That God will add to their number and that those who join them would be impacted as they welcome them into their community and love and serve them.
- For the addition of their second son to their family due in the beginning of November and that both Nicole and the baby will remain healthy these last few weeks.

West Charlotte Church Plant

Praise:

- That the Lord has used the display of their support for one another through all of the hard things to draw several new individuals and families into their fellowship.

Pray:

- For the exacerbated pre-existing economic challenges due to Covid-19 and the fall out. The percentage rates of positive tests and serious health complications (including deaths) remain significantly higher in their community.
- For the children in the under-resourced schools and under-resourced families in their community who are finding it particularly difficult to navigate the new virtual schooling world.
- For the Black members of their congregation carrying a heavy bag of bereavement over the recent tragedies and frustration over unsympathetic responses and rhetoric.
- For them as they will need to begin the process of looking for a building location after their last opportunity did not work out.
- For them to be able to endure and navigate the many challenges without being able to physically gather as a church.

Andrew & Lauren Holbrook, Church Planter—Fairfield, CT

Pray:

- For wisdom and vision for where their next location will be, as their current worship site will be sold by spring.
- That God would open doors for them to show the love of Christ in expansive ways.
- That many new people will come to their outdoor services, they hope to have one every two weeks through the fall.
- For Andrew as he is struggling for good mental balance while planting a church in the midst of this pandemic.

Dan & Rebecca Gregoire, Church Support—Slovakia

Pray:

- For new life among their neighbors.

Tim & Barbie, Restricted

Pray:

- That God would protect their country from wide spread violence and their ministry from attacks.
- For wisdom and for future leadership for their Center for Health and Leprosy, they are seeing a large increase of malaria due to the rainy season.
- That new efforts to raise awareness for their Danja Fistula Center would result in the funding they need to reopen in January.
- For the extreme flooding in Niamey; 2 SIM properties have been completely flooded, 13 SIM staff have been flooded out of their homes, and city-wide over 250,000 people have been affected.

Peter & Katie Eck, Church Planter—Atlantic City, NJ

Pray:

- For a new worship location, the one they thought they had fell through.
- For Peter's new young men's Bible study, where they will study a Jerry Bridges book. It is a significant milestone that there are some guys who want to do this.
- For Katie's newly forming women's Bible study to be beneficial and for the details to be worked out.
- For creative outreach ideas during Covid.
- For patience and faithfulness all around during Covid.

Emily & Damon, Restricted

Pray:

- For students in East Asia as they go back to campus—that the Lord would raise up believers there to continue the mission of reaching lost students.
- That their eyes would continue to look to Jesus for direction in both this semester and the future.
- For them as they lead their team, that the Lord would grow them in their leadership capacity even as they feel so weary from all that this year has held.
- For continue unity among the 7 members of their team and the ability to remain open-handed in whatever opportunities the Lord give them while in Birmingham/Tuscaloosa.
- For the students they are reaching out to at the University of Alabama.
- For the Chinese Corner they have started at UAB and the 8 students that have already joined the group.
- For the English Corner they continue to be a part of from a distance in their country of service and the students that show up to it every Thursday night.

Fred & Grace Ely, SIM—USA—Charlotte, NC

Praise:

- For the birth of their 7th grandchild last spring.
- That all in their family have remained well.

Pray:

- Pray for their missionaries still impacted by Covid; either by not being able to be on the field or by being under many constraints in their countries.
- For Fred as he plans to retire from SIMUSA next March.

Jonty & Georgina Rhodes, Church Planters—Leeds, England

Praise:

- For the many visitors trying out their church as they move to the city.
- For their new intern, Hannah Lafoy, who has started to work with female students.
- For their ability to meet on Sundays, with much distancing, having to run the service twice.

Pray:

- For a new venue for Sunday, they have requests pending with 2 places.
- For many students to join Hannah & Zac as they kick off the student program.
- For a new home and wisdom on renting or purchasing for the Rhodes family. The home they are renting currently is being sold and there are few to no rental homes in their area currently.

Scott & Ruth Hill, Church Planter—Cherokee, NC

Praise:

- For the opportunity Scott had to assist with the funeral of a Cherokee man, a very big deal.
- That the Gospel was shared at the funeral, with many non-believers attending.

Pray:

- For the family of Pastor Bo Parris who has pastored in Cherokee for over 50 years, who went home to be with the Lord.
- For the families they are reaching out to during the death of a family member.
- For Grace Community Church of Cherokee as they continue holding in-person services as well as streaming them on-line.
- For continued health and safety for their family.
- For Johnathan and Autumn's wedding as they prepare for October 24th.

Jack & Pamela Sielaff, Church Support—North Carolina

Pray:

- They are planting a church in Western North Carolina in Burnsville while waiting for their visas to Scotland, which could be a year out.
- For them as they partner with local businessmen and government agencies to meet the needs of the impoverished in the Appalachian Mountains.
- For the teenagers they are reaching out to in the hopes of sharing the Gospel and for lives being changed before they become addicted to drugs and alcohol.
- For the possibility of renting or buying a building that will be utilized as a community center to teach skills to young people.

Tom & Sharlene Muir, Church Planter—Midlothian, Scotland

Pray:

- For unity and perseverance as the UK is still experiencing very tight restrictions and not having their own venue makes meeting together quite hard.
- For them as they look to refresh and renew the vision of the church in readiness for an new season in 2021, God willing.

Dot Driver, Retired—Tahlequah, OK

Praise:

- For the soft reopening of independent living—visitors can visit after going through screening.
- That their chapel services are televised since no one can attend.
- That missionaries are reporting many tuning into and listening to the Gospel and coming to know the Lord.

Pray:

- That they will remain safe from Covid-19, only 2 cases so far.
- For people at Go Ye Village to obey the rules to stay healthy.
- That people will turn to the Lord, realizing that He is their only hope.

David & Estelle Abernathy, JAARS—Waxhaw, NC

Pray:

- For a full time, permanent job teaching music and a car for their son Michael.

Marcus & Bethany Smith, Army Chaplain

Pray:

- For a swift resolution and patience while he waits to have complete acceptance into the Army Chaplaincy due to a delay in his medical paperwork.
- For Marcus' time in preparation, preaching and leading worship as he supplies various pulpits during his time of waiting.

Shane & Krista, Restricted

Pray:

- For a quick and smooth transition back into classroom teaching in October.
- For the many teammates, new and old, still in America waiting for visas and flights to open up. Returning teachers may be able to get there soon on World Food Organization flights as long as the government of their country approves each person.
- For team unity and that their team meetings would be filling times each week as they add 2 new staff.

Frank & Sheree, Restricted

Pray:

- That the families Frank oversees in their region who are going through deep waters due to challenges in family, work, health and weariness. Pray that they would know the presence of God and not grow weary in well doing.
- For seminary effort with Syr... refugees, hoping for first class to start in November. Pray for the details of who to enroll, of getting visiting professors there, and how they make mentoring an integral part.
- For Frank's license and residence process that will begin in October. Pray for wisdom, perseverance and faith to trust God in the midst of bureaucracy and delays.
- For the preschool as they look to start back hopefully in Mid-October. Pray for wisdom for Sheree on how to handle Covid and for peaceful relations among the teachers.
- For them as they parent from afar and deeply miss their children.

Brandi & Jay Rawls, Campus Outreach—East Coast.

Pray:

- For them as they continue to train staff via Zoom.
- For wisdom in knowing when to travel again, and safety as they begin to do some assessments in person.
- For Brandi's back and neck with some ongoing pain.

Joseph & Savannah Foucachon, Church Strengthening—Paris, France

Praise:

- For good health in their family, including 2 month old Lucie who is thriving.

Pray:

- For provision as they have lost some supporters.
- For guidance as they seek God's will for their ministry and future. Their resources and space are very limited right now so they will be unable to have a big Reformation event and are looking at a very scaled back Christmas event unless Covid restrictions are lifted for churches.

Stephen & Natalie, Restricted

Praise:

- That they were able to make it to their county and only had 1 week of quarantine and that they remained healthy during their long days of travel.

Pray:

- That they will settle into their life there quickly.
- That they will be able to start language school and begin making friends even though the Covid policies are strict.
- That the Covid case numbers would stay low there even though there's been a spike recently.
- That they would be able to connect and build a friendship with a man they met while at the airport waiting for their Covid test to come back and were waiting to be told where they would have to quarantine.

Jonathan & Sheona de Groot, Church Planter—Glasgow, Scotland

Praise:

- That they are able to start in person worship services again as well continue live streaming.
- For the number of new people attending each Sunday since they opened again and for the believers God has sent along who want to commit to their church plant.
- For their former intern who has moved to being a pastor in training, and has started his theological studies and will continue working part time for them, and for the new intern who will be working with the women of the church.

Pray:

- For their personal evangelism and outreach to grow and that they would love people enough that they would desire them to come to faith in Jesus Christ.
- For wisdom and good programs for their ministry to children and young people to be effective and that they would have great wisdom as this age group is growing quite a bit at their church. They do not have many resources for children.
- For wisdom in deciding on the most strategic location for their future ministry and mission.

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Amjad & Sarah, Church Planting among P@k!st@n! M@sl!ms—High Wycombe, UK

Praise:

- That during this time of lockdowns (which are actually increasing) they have been able to concentrate on their pastor care and counseling through Zoom and other online mediums.

Pray:

- For their network of M@sl!m Born Believers (MBBs) around the world, especially those who are in locations where they have no Christian fellowship.
- For their next zoom Fellowship of Believers meeting on October 31st for MBBs where they will be able to catch up, support each other and hear from the Word.

Andy & Brooke Cheely, Campus Outreach Serve—Birmingham, AL

Praise:

- For the London Bound CO team that just received their visas and were able to book plane tickets to get onto the field.

Pray:

- For the Mary family as they settle their children in London and especially for Chad who will be the team leader there.
- That they would winsomely engage students at the universities right in their area with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Rohan & Rebecca Crown, Church Planter—Lethbridge, Canada

Pray:

- For Rohan and Amazing Grace as they navigate these times together as a church.
- For their continued good relationship with the SAGE patrol, a First Nations group that feeds the homeless and those suffering with addiction.
- For their daughter Isabel who is a nanny in Hawaii for 3 months.
- For Rebecca as she reaches out to many of their Amazing kids families each week.

Michael & Lindie Wadhams, Ministry to the Nooksack & Lummi Indians—Lynden, WA

Pray:

- For the Lummi Tribe:
 - ❖ For the difficulties they are encountering as the reservation remains closed. They need to find new ways to interact with areas and people which is often met with skepticism and anger.
 - ❖ For their ability to remain on Zoom with Bible studies and seeking to connect with the women via social media.
 - ❖ For the huge backlash by the Tribe to the proposal of the government to use Covid vaccines on tribal volunteers, causing even more problems with the “White Cause.”
- For the Nooksack Tribe:
 - ❖ For the core group that is meeting regularly to plan their new fellowship services at the church, hoping to start late October or early November.
 - ❖ For the removal of the sweat lodge on the church property. The activity of the church has drawn attention and led to many traditionalists seeking to enlarge the sweat lodge’s activity. This is a battle over the spiritual realms of the church’s ministry and traditionalism.

Randy & Joan Nabors, MNA Urban & Mercy Ministry, Chattanooga, TN

Pray:

- For the ministry of Pastor Kenny Foster in Dover, Delaware. Randy preached at his installation as Pastor Foster used to pastor with Randy in Chattanooga.
- For them to be wise in accepting engagements out of town and careful in limiting their exposure and social encounters.
- About the possibility of having their offices moved to First Presbyterian Church in downtown Chattanooga.
- For his continued work through Zoom with New City church in London.

Erik & Hara Petrou, Church Planter—Athens, Greece

Praise:

- For many new people who are attending their church during this pandemic.

Pray:

- For wisdom as things are constantly changing in how they are able to meet as a second wave of the pandemic hits Greece.