



Prayer Calendar

A simple way to pray
for our missionaries

Parkside Church Missions **December**

"The harvest is plentiful,
but the laborers are few."
Matthew 9:37 (ESV)

Introduction

“Pray also for us...”

So states the apostle Paul in Colossians 4:3 (ESV), acknowledging a somewhat stunning reality: though the Christians to whom he was writing were separated from him physically, they could nonetheless participate in his ministry! God’s people could *join* in God’s work of taking the gospel to those who hadn’t heard it simply by praying for their missionary pastor.

These realities are no less true today. As a church, Parkside has been blessed with the opportunity to support many missionaries scattered around the world, all of whom are seeking to share the Good News of Jesus with people who have yet to hear and believe it. Can we really help them, being thousands of miles and numerous time zones away? According to Paul, yes! The purpose of this missionary prayer calendar is to inform you of what is going on in certain parts of the world, and invite you to participate in the work through prayer.

The format is simple. Each day, you will find a missionary or organization that Parkside supports, along with one of their specific prayer requests. You’ll also find a different country of the world and how you can best be praying for the people there.

Our hope in arranging this is that you’ll know the privilege of participating in the work of the gospel, which as Paul also tells the Colossians, is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world. We trust that praying for the nations will increase our heart for the world, causing us to increasingly desire and work towards seeing unbelieving people of all nations become committed followers of Christ!



To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.

What You Can Do



Pray

Utilize this booklet and enter into the work of our missionaries via prayer. You can also receive the daily prayer requests in your inbox by signing up for the daily devotional at parksidechurch.com/subscribe.



Learn

Increase your awareness of what God is doing among the nations by reading *Operation World* by Jason Mandryk. The prayer requests for different countries are excerpts from this book. You can pick up a copy in the bookstore.



Give

Thanks to your generous giving, we were able to allocate \$2.8 million towards missions in 2019. As we look to the future, it seems there are even more opportunities for us to take the gospel to the world, and we are trusting Him for the capacity to do so.



Go

Consider traveling to serve our missionaries or other partners by participating in a short-term mission trip. Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming trips.

Parkside Church Missionaries



Mark & Patti Bean
Andy, Emily, Eric, Ernie



Wes & Nancy Collins
Elisa, Molly, Isaac



Chris & Leanne Harrington
Mark, Lillia, Claire, Graham, Jude



Andrew & Angie James
Nicole, Camille, Zack



Kep & Debbie James
Heather, Katie, Andrew



Mike & Joan Ross
Steve, Ben, Aaron

DEC
01

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Please pray for the unique ways the holiday season allows Chris and Leanne to share Christ. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, they can share about Christ as they answer holiday cultural questions the Japanese people have.

Panama (Latin America). Population: 4,026,687 Believers: 19.3%. Evangelicals face major obstacles and challenges: a) Spiritual unity and vision. Pray for the churches to grow in unity; b) Traditional morality is under siege. Divorce, illegitimate children, domestic violence, immorality, and drug use are common. Pray for the conviction of sin and for solid discipleship that shows people how to live; c) Effective ministry to young people. For many, local church structures and ministry do not connect with them; d) Theological training that encourages holiness of life and spirituality. Pray for more Panamanians to be called into full-time service.

DEC
02

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

Andrew and Angie are thankful for our prayers for their lives and ministry. Their family is doing well as the kids prepare to finish the school year in December. They will be heading back to the U.S. in mid-December for a short home assignment. Please pray for their time in the U.S. and for the leadership of the church in Uruguay as they assume additional responsibilities during their absence. One of the ESI students who graduated last year has been invited to become part of the pastoral team at his church in northern Uruguay. He will be ordained in December and has asked Andrew to preach at his ordination service. They are thankful to see God raise up young leaders like him in Uruguay, who are using the training they receive in ESI to serve the local church. Please pray for Francisco as he assumes this new responsibility.

Papua New Guinea (Pacific). Population: 8,468,136 Believers: 25.7%. A land with a rich legacy of missionary success and sacrifice, PNG's large missionary presence is mostly focused on health, education, development, translation, teaching, discipling, leadership training, and support work. Pray for the gospel to take a more New Guinean shape. Christianity must become more relevant to nationals if it is to have the leavening effect society desperately needs. Pray for those building up the existing church. Discipleship and leadership training are crucial tasks and the main challenges.

DEC
03

E & J, Missionaries in Training, United States

They are thankful for the opportunity that J had to serve and connect with one of their neighbors by giving her a ride. Pray for their relationships with their neighbors, especially the North African community. Pray that E & J stay diligent in their language learning during this complex time. Pray also that as bondservants of Christ, E & J would do the will of God from the heart, rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man (Eph. 6:5-8).

Paraguay (Latin America). Population: 7,532,572 Believers: 6.1%. The Roman Catholic Church has long dominated the spiritual and political life of Paraguay. Although it opposes corruption and immorality, there is also much superstitious traditionalism, strong devotion to Mary, and occult-related bondage to many pre-Christian deities and customs. These practices keep millions from liberty in the Lord Jesus. Paraguay has never had a true spiritual awakening, and few of the Catholic Spanish-Guarani majority have a living relationship with Christ. Missionaries are still very much needed for church planting, leadership training, holistic mission, and education.

DEC

04

Kep & Debbie James, Bolivia

The ILC church in La Paz has returned to physical meetings. Pray for Pastor Pepe and the elders, that they will be passionate about Jesus and focused on gospel transformation in their preaching and teaching. Pray for Debbie as she shares the gospel with many women via phone and internet, disciples women, and continues teaching the Bible to the ILC Church women.

Peru (Latin America). Population: 32,880,637 Believers: 11.6%. The Quechua and Aymara peoples, descendants of the Incas, are emerging from centuries of oppression, cultural deprivation, grinding poverty, and isolation. The Quechua Church is flourishing as Christianity at last becomes indigenized in Scriptures, structures, worship, and music. Whole villages are turning to Christ. Pray for: a) Millions of mountain Quechua and Aymara still bound by superstitions of pagan and “Christian” origin; b) Bible translation has been a major factor in the Quechuan renaissance and church growth. Pray for the translation teams at work and for widespread use of these new resources; c) The full reconciliation between Quechua and Spanish speakers at the foot of the cross, and the full integration of all ethnic groups into national Christian life.

DEC

05

Parkside Church Green Campus, United States

Please ask the Lord to turn hearts toward Christ as Pastor Adam preaches an Advent/Christmas series. Pray that the people of Parkside Green will continue to grow in maturity, love, and unity. Intercede for their pastors and elders as they develop a vision for 2021. Also ask God to accomplish his purposes through the missionaries they support in Nairobi, Kenya and in Dubai, UAE—including their church plant in Beirut and its new direction.

Philippines (Asia). Population: 109,682,980 Believers: 12.3%. Spiritual vitality does not always equate to biblical truth. Philippines is awash with sects and cults that blend Christian ideas with all manner of false teachings. Pray for all lies to be exposed and pray for effective Christian apologetics and ministry to the millions caught within these groups.

DEC

06

Mike & Joan Ross, Mexico, United States

Pray that God will provide for many people in Oaxaca with limited access to medical care during the pandemic. Thank God that critical medical flights are still happening in Mexico. Pray that Mike and Joan might be an encouragement to Neri and Karina as they visit them early this month. Pray for Mike and Joan as they seek ways to disciple Christians in Latin America who desire to serve in worldwide missions. Pray for pilots to be called to serve on mission fields around the world. Thank God that Juan Carlos was able to come to Idaho to continue his training to become an MAF pilot. Continue to pray that the Ross' three sons, along with their families, will serve God with their whole hearts.

Poland (Europe). Population: 37,496,737 Believers: .3%. There is a great need for witness in Poland, with 90% of municipalities having no evangelical church. Most Poles are resistant to the gospel due to either their cultural faith or their spiritual apathy. There is certainly a need and an open door for missionaries to come and serve alongside the national church. Pray for evangelicals to rise to this great challenge.

DEC

07

Truth For Life, United States

Pray that the Lord will provide Truth For Life with the resources needed to end 2020 successfully. Pray that many who receive the year-end communications from Truth For Life will take the opportunity to share the Gospel with a work friend, a neighbor, and a family member. Pray that God will use the year-end communications to lead many to saving faith. Pray for the Truth For Life volunteers who will work diligently during the month of December shipping packages to Truth For Life listeners across the country and around the world. Pray for the volunteers to remain healthy, to be encouraged, and to have endurance.

Portugal (Europe). Population: 10,767,052 Believers: 3.0%. Religious and political freedoms gained in 1975 have transformed the nation, but high religious affiliation and freedom does not translate into genuine faith. The religious freedom gained is taken advantage of by Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and New Age philosophies. Pray for the truth about Jesus to be made known by wise Christian leaders of all confessions.

DEC

08

Amy Cottle, Thailand

Please pray for this upcoming Christmas season with the students. The student ministry team will host one large Christmas party on December 26 and additional small gatherings throughout the month. Most of the students coming to the student center have heard the story of Christmas, but they have not made a personal connection to it. Pray for the team to have the strength and energy for the busy month and most importantly, for the students to see the need for Jesus in their lives.

Puerto Rico (Caribbean). Population: 4,134,563 Believers: 25.2%. Pray for their continued recovery from Hurricane Maria that devastated the island in 2017. Discipleship ministry is much needed. Pray for effective grassroots movements that will meaningfully transform the lives of ordinary believers. Missions vision is on the rise, but still needs nurture after decades of noninvolvement. Pray for effective training and support of new mission ventures. Student ministry is proving both fruitful and vital. Pray for ministries to reach all remaining campuses and to continue shaping future leaders.

DEC
09

Shoreline Church, United States

They are thankful for all who participated in the Thanksgiving Box Project. They were able to provide meals for 128 families this year. What a blessing to be able to serve the community! Please pray for a couple of other opportunities to serve others that will take place in December. Continue to pray for their pastors and elders as they care for the congregation. Pray for one of the missionaries they support in Serbia, as members of his immediate family have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Qatar (Asia). Population: 1,740,077 Believers: 1.0%. Qatari believers number but a few. From Arab, Persian, and Bantu (former slaves) extraction, Qataris are almost without exception Muslim. Pray that a Qatari Church would be birthed and that Qataris at home and abroad would hear about Jesus. **Reunion (Africa).** Population: 931,473 Believers: 5.9%. The dark legacy of slavery, abolished in 1848, still overshadows the present. The Creole population are descendants of those slaves. A deep work of healing and laying to rest the legacy of the past is far from complete. Pray for the entire population to come to terms with the past, possible only through faith in Christ.

DEC
10

Indigenous Church-Planting Organization in Arab & Muslim Countries

Thank God for the courage and perseverance of their 30 church planters spread out among 12 different villages and three refugee camps in unreached areas of South Sudan. These men go into animistic and Muslim people groups in difficult to reach areas, protected only by the power of the Holy Spirit. They face disease, storms, loneliness, and fatigue to bring God's word to those who have never heard of Jesus. Please pray for: Reliable means of transportation for them; Bibles for the new believers; Protection from diseases such as malaria, typhoid, & COVID-19; Boldness to preach and to be used by God; For safety as they travel back and forth between the villages; Supply of gospel tracts; And for the protection and permanence of the new converts.

Romania (Europe). Population: 20,379,656 Believers: 5.4%. Church planting is still a vital ministry. Over 100 new churches are planted each year, but many more are needed. A consortium of mission agencies works across evangelical denominational boundaries to facilitate reaching the 19 cities and 9,500 villages (43% of all villages) without a single evangelical church. Pray for this vision to become a widespread movement, owned by the national church and effective at planting churches in every city, town, and village.

DEC

11

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson, Bridges International, United States

Blake and Emily praise God for the special gift of being able to spend some time with both sides of the family this December. This means family time in Ohio and in Texas. They are so thankful to God for His blessing and provision through prayers, friends, family, and doctor appointments as Emily continues to heal and recover from the birth of their son Elijah. Praise God for the care she is receiving and continue to pray for God's grace and direction in this recovery process. Each year Bridges has a national conference for international students. This year it will be virtual which means everything from planning to recruiting is new and different. Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance for the event, January 1-3. Pray that students would be deeply blessed, and that God would draw them to himself.

Russia (Europe). Population: 135,405,523 Believers: 1.2%. The current religious climate of Russia is mixed, both spiritually open and closed at the same time. Orthodoxy is culturally strong yet spiritually weak in the lives of most of its followers. Pray that the Russian peoples' hearts will be hungry for and open to promptings of the Holy Spirit and the gospel of Christ.

DEC

12

Jon (& Ruthie), Ambassadors Football, United States

Please continue to pray as the board begins a search for an Ambassadors Football National Director for Australia. Please pray for their leaders around the world and their families: Ngiap Tai in Asia; Valmir in Latin America; Goran in Europe; Ben/Stephen in Africa; and Martin in the Middle East/North Africa. God opened their eyes to the opportunity to work with large, evangelical church denominations in Africa and possibly other continents to reach children ages 6-12 with the foundational truths of the faith. Please pray for this project and for God to provide what Ambassadors needs to accomplish the work. Jon and Ruthie also ask for prayer for their daughter, Heidi, and her husband, Garrett, who are moving back to Cleveland from the west coast.

Rwanda (Africa). Population: 13,233,373 Believers: 26.9%. Thousands of spiritual leaders were murdered or fled and have not been replaced. Those remaining often despair of being able to cope with the desperate physical, social, psychological, and spiritual damage done. Less than 10% of evangelical pastors have any formal theological training. Pray that God may raise up godly men and women fitted for Rwanda's hour of need. Pray also for financial provision for both students and schools.

DEC

13

Wes & Nancy Collins, Peru, Guatemala, United States

Pray for Christmas season virtual programs among the Mam people and among minority groups and others around the world who have been thrust into the digital age. The Scriptures in the "heart language" are new for many people groups. Pray that Christmas is a great time of encouragement. Continue to pray for Wes as he recovers from ankle reconstruction surgery.

Samoa (Pacific). Population: 183,903 Believers: 18.0%. Samoans have been Christian for over a century, and every village has at least one church. But the traditional class structure and pre-Christian cultural standards were not necessarily transformed by the gospel. Much of the Church suffers from nominalism, and rivalry among denominations does not generate a good spiritual atmosphere. **San Marino (Europe).** Population: 32,914 Believers: <0.1%. The Sammarinese are Christian by tradition and culture, but most give only lip service to the Church and are very materialistic. Increasing numbers reject their religious heritage altogether. Pray that they may have a life-changing encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ.

DEC

14

Parkside Church Westside, United States

Please pray with them for continued health, safety, and protection over their church amid the virus surge. They are so grateful that they have been able to continue with most of their regular ministries and are looking forward to some special seasonal serving opportunities as well. Please pray for the families they will be serving through the Lakewood Christmas Store, that they would not only be blessed recipients of gifts, but that they would also have an encounter with the gospel.

São Tomé & Príncipe (Africa). Population: 197,499 Believers: 4.2%. Less-reached sections of the population are the Príncipe islanders, the Angolares (rural fisherfolk), and the servicais (contract laborers), with each group having its own distinct Creole dialect. Pray for outreach to and salvation for these groups. **Seychelles (Africa).** Population: 88,707 Believers: 5.9%. The vernacular of Seselwa has a translated NT, but the shelves are empty—financial troubles and the inability to exchange local currency means a shortfall of NTs and all Christian literature. There is an OT translation team in place. Pray for a solution that enables Seychellois to have access to Scripture and materials, and that these will have an impact on their spiritual life.

DEC

15

Pastoral Assistants, Bolivia

Pray for the Pastoral Assistant volunteers studying 16 hours each week preparing messages and preaching through the book of Romans in Santa Cruz: Daniel Cabrera, Yorch Cronenbold, Miguel Ortiz, Paolo Paris, Rolando Ruiz, and Aldruin Tapia; and in La Paz: Jonathan Ascarra, Gerson Calderon, Albaro Cruz, Roberto Garcia, Juan Lopez, Pando Melendez, Miguel Perez, Edwin Quisberth, Gabriel Rodriguez, Miguel Rueda, Freddy Soliz, and Luis Velasquez. God is using these men to impact increasing numbers of churches.

Saudi Arabia (Asia). Population: 31,607,829 Believers: 0.3%. Saudis who come to faith in Christ face the death penalty if discovered; executions are known to occur. Despite this, increasing numbers are secretly seeking and finding Jesus, and there are believers in every Saudi city. Pray for believers to persevere and even to multiply. Pray for a miracle—the legalization of Christianity for Saudis. Pray that Saudi believers may be able to meet in safety and have access to God's Word. Also, pray that believers might find believing spouses.

DEC

16

Scranton Road Bible Church, United States

Pray for the 20 Cleveland Metropolitan School District students who are working remotely in the church building through Scranton Road Ministries. Pray for wisdom for leadership as they continue to navigate COVID-19. SRBC desires to be a faithful ambassador for Christ through effective outreach to their neighbors and networks through the holidays.

Senegal (Africa). Population: 16,196,985 Believers: 0.2%. Of Senegal's population, 55% are under age 20. Many of these are children in crisis; ministry among them is growing—drop-in centers, vocational training, and others. The younger generation often less committed to “formal religion,” are thereby more open to the gospel. Pray that the God of the Bible could be that source of hope for young people with so much potential.

DEC

17

Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, Mexico

Pray that God would give Edgar wisdom in directing the Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) work in Mexico. Pray that new opportunities brought about by COVID-19 will result in people understanding the gospel. Pray for Edgar's son, Juan and his wife, Amy as Juan begins training to be a missionary pilot. Please continue to pray for healing for Edgar's back. Pray that Neri will have wisdom as he encourages several Equipping Servants (ESI) groups through this time of social restriction. Pray that the church plant will continue to grow and that many opportunities would arise to share the Good News. Pray for healing for Karina as she battles cancer and for wisdom as she seeks treatment options. Pray that God would continue to bless his Word as it is proclaimed in Tapachula.

Serbia (Europe). Population: 7,686,436 Believers: 0.6%. Strong links between ethnicity and religion have exacerbated tensions in the Balkans for centuries. Constitutionally there is freedom of religion, but with preferential treatment accorded to the Orthodox Church. A controversial religion law makes registration and activity by non-traditional religious groups very difficult. Evangelicals are often viewed as a sect, even as traitors, by any mono-religious ethnicity. Despite this, newer churches are growing and engaging in many forms of ministry. Crucial issues for prayer include a) Leadership training; and b) Cooperation in outreach and church planting. Unity is essential amid the divisions in Serbia, especially given the relatively small number of evangelicals.

DEC

18

Health for Her (formerly Alternaterm), United States

Pray for a successful Holiday Connection for families with partnering churches, that through this event patients will see Christ. Pray for clients facing unplanned pregnancies to connect with Health for Her before approaching abortion clinics. Ask the Lord to soften the hearts of these women even as they enter the doors of the clinic and that they will choose life.

The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth



Our Focus in Global Missions

- Parkside Missionaries
- Regional Missions Agencies

AN



NORTH
PACIFIC
OCEAN

INDIAN
OCEAN

OCEAN

ANTARCTICA

AN UPDATE FROM PARKSIDE CHURCH WESTSIDE

THREE SNAPSHOTS FROM 2020



This past year has been marked by many peculiarities, transitions, and adjustments. However, in the midst of it all, we have still been able to carry out three very normal events in church life, for which we are extremely grateful. We'd love to share with you "Three Snapshots From 2020" that have been full of joy and celebration for us at Parkside Westside.

After finishing up many months of renovations, we were able to move into a facility of our own. This was an exciting moment for us as we felt a sense of being more permanently planted here in Lakewood, sinking our roots deep into the soil of our community. Opening the doors of our building for the first time happened to coincide with

the reopening of our services in June, after a few months of being online during the springtime virus surge. We also celebrated our fifth birthday together in October! It was the fall of 2015 when we had our very first service and we continue to be amazed at the way we see God has ordered our steps and provided for us more abundantly than we could ever ask or imagine.

We've been encouraged with the way normal church things have happened among us as they help to continually redirect our focus. We've seen people come to saving faith in Jesus, we've been able to baptize a handful of folks in our building for the first time, and we've had a steady addition of people who have joined us in church membership.

As we look toward the end of the year, we look forward to holding our first Christmas Eve services and serving the Lakewood community through the "Christmas Store" program, which provides Christmas presents to local families in need. Please pray that God will grant us ongoing unity, keep us away from the troublemakers, and grant us evangelistic vigor as we help people become committed followers of Jesus Christ. We are glad for your support and partnership in the gospel.

IN CHRIST,
PARKSIDE CHURCH WESTSIDE



Opposite Page: Parkside Westside's new church building, located at the corner of Hilliard Rd. and Woodward Ave.
Above: Westside's first service. *Above Right:* Pastor Matt McAlvey preaching at their inaugural service.

←PARKSIDE CHURCH
WESTSIDE



Kosovo (Europe). Population: 2,096,100 Believers: 0.1%. Ministries in Kosovo find work difficult, but fruitful. Work with children and young adults sees a lot of response. Discipleship and leadership development are crucial works in Kosovo. More male workers are needed. Pray that expatriate groups would retain the freedom to work in this predominantly Muslim land, and that they might use opportunities wisely and well.

DEC

19

Brian (& Maria) Walls, Greater Cleveland Youth For Christ, U.S.

Praise the Lord that the Urban Outreach Trunk of Treat event touched 250 lives. The night included hayrides around the City Life Center near Metro Health Hospital, decorated cars, free food, hot chocolate, and lots of love. The Campus Life/Private Schools branch of YFC reports that the outreach clubs at five eastside prep schools are going well. Students will be participating in the FOCUS retreat on Nov. 20-21 that features Sarah Drew from Grey's Anatomy speaking about her faith. Please pray that lives will be impacted for the gospel.

Sierra Leone (Africa). Population: 7,317,803 Believers: 3.9%. Sierra Leone remains a land of suffering. The people are still mired in desperate poverty, most surviving on less than a dollar a day. With the highest infant and maternal mortality rates in the world and widespread disease (malaria, HIV, others), life expectancy is age 47 and not rising. Pray for more attention from the worldwide community—especially from Christians—to address these needs.

DEC

20

Equipping Servants International (ESI), Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, Venezuela

Pray for the ESI leaders and groups in the 15 countries where they currently work. The five ESI groups in Guatemala report growth among participants as they study through Romans. Pray that the Lord will encourage and transform these pastors and church leaders, that they will become gospel-centered in their thinking, passionate about Jesus in their living, and faithful in their outreach—because no one should live or die without having the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus. Pray that the Lord will give wisdom to their leadership team as they consider expanding ESI into parts of Africa and North America in 2021.

Singapore (Asia). Population: 5,219,377 Believers: 7.8%. Singapore is a strategic center for regional and global Christian mission due to its infrastructure, stability, location, and strong Christian population. Pray that Singapore will be a blessing to the least-evangelized nations and peoples around it and a servant leader that facilitates the emerging missions' movement from other Asian nations.

DEC

21

The City Mission, United States

Pray for the mental health of the clients at Laura's Home, as many are struggling with anxiety and depression during this time. Please keep the children in prayer as they complete their schoolwork with perseverance and hopefully return to a "new normal" after Christmas break. Pray for the clients and staff at Crossroads who have started the first of sequence of classes in a 24-session course where clients learn advanced self-management skills. Pray for the renovations on the Maple Heights home, which they hope to finish before Christmas! Praise the Lord they will transfer the titles of two homes to families who have finished the New Horizons home ownership program.

Slovakia (Europe). Population: 5,441,569 Believers: 1.2%. Slovakia is a nation in the midst of significant change. Economic reforms and EU membership both created as well as solved problems. Increasing wealth (for some) is accompanied by the new influences of materialism and moral relativism. Depression and suicide rates are among the highest in Europe; pray that many might seek for hope and truth and find these in Christ.

DEC

22

Delhi Bible Institute, India

Pray for enduring faith and courage during this season of heightened fear, anxiety, and confusion. Pray for their pastors and those around the country who are making difficult decisions related to public worship and the safety of their members. Pray for wisdom to faithfully shepherd the congregations under their care, even if they are unable to physically gather. Pray for wisdom in how to handle technology at all levels as they continue their work for the Lord. Pray for electricity and internet to work in all the Ashrams and in church members' homes. Pray that in the next month they would be able to acquire and distribute 10,000 audio Bibles to be given out by teams from the different Ashrams.

Slovenia (Europe). Population: 2,053,200 Believers: 0.1%. Pray for an awakening in the mainline churches that draws the many nominal Christians into personal faith in Christ. Slovenia has had a Protestant witness since the Reformation, but there are still very few evangelical churches. Even these few lack teaching and leadership training, although two informal Bible training schools operate with help from outside professors.

DEC

23

E & J, Missionaries in Training, United States

Pray for them to have wisdom and courage to bring their children up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Thank you for praying for them to find a good church home. God answered the prayers and led them to a great church nearby! Pray that they can meet more North Africans and be more involved in their community. Ask for wisdom to know how to balance time in language learning and involvement in the community and church. They are thankful that they can spend time with family in Ohio for Christmas.

Solomon Islands (Pacific). Population: 661,675 Believers: 33.3%. Ethnic diversity and fragmentation as well as geography render the Solomons a patchwork of tribes and political groups rather than a unified nation. This hinders not just national identity but also Christian ministry. Pray that God might knit these many islands and tribes together in the gospel. **St Barthélemy (Caribbean).** Population: 9,300 Believers: 2.3%. This island caters to the uber-rich, trading on its sophistication and isolation for its exclusivity. There is little interest in spiritual things. Pray that amid the boutiques, cafés, and villas there might awaken a hunger for spiritual reality and the opportunity to know God.

DEC
24

Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, South Africa

Johannes has started a sports ministry and there are six volunteers from their church who are helping with the soccer team. The ministry has young boys who form teams with ages of 11, 13, 15, and 17 who come and practice every weekday. Before they begin playing each day, Johannes starts by praying and reading the Bible with them. Some of the children live close to the church and they have become a part of this soccer team as well becoming a part of the church. Please pray that the boys will become followers of Jesus Christ and grow in their knowledge of him because of this soccer ministry.

Somalia (Africa). Population: 12,246,171 Believers: <0.1%. The work of missions, always dangerous and hedged with restrictions, was forced to cease in 1972 when their institutions were nationalized by the new Marxist regime. The work of different missions between 1897 and 1974 saw several hundred turn to the Lord. Pray for workers to the Somalis to be called, committed, and ready for when these defiantly closed doors open.

DEC
25

B & J, United States

B's father, Robert died in August of a brain tumor. Please keep his family in your prayers as they have their first Christmas without him. Pray especially for B's siblings, believing and unbelieving. Please pray with B and J as they seek the Lord for his direction for their future in these turbulent times as the Lord still has them at a crossroads. Pray foremost that they will have an effective gospel ministry where God has them for the time being. Pray that they will seek first God's Kingdom and entrust the Lord with their burdens. Please pray for opportunities for B to preach and teach the Scriptures in their local church. Pray that believers in the Twin Cities will grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

South Africa (Africa). Population: 52,671,375 Believers: 21.1%. Immigrants, legal and illegal, have streamed over South Africa's borders, especially from Zimbabwe, Congo-DRC, Mozambique, Angola, Somalia, Rwanda, Burundi, and Nigeria. Their peak numbers are estimated at five million (although some claim it is as high as 18 million,) but many of these use South Africa only as a jumping-off point to other destinations. Pray for the evangelism and discipleship of these millions.

DEC

26

Mark & Patti Bean, Peru, United States

Praise the Lord for the opportunity Mark has teaching in Quechua each Sunday. His messages are aired on a local TV station in the mountains as well as on Facebook Live. God continues to open avenues to spread his word during these unusual times. Continue to pray for it to be known that God's word is available in Quechua, even if for now people can only access it digitally most places due to travel restrictions. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to serve their daughter, Emily, and family. Patti was in their home in Houston for just over a month and now they are in Mark and Patti's home. Pray for continued healing for Emily for the trauma to her hips during childbirth.

Spain (Europe). Population: 48,701,629 Believers: 1.0%. Leadership training is needed. Few churches can afford to pay for a full-time pastor, let alone a team of them. As a result, churches must use bi-vocational pastors or be entrusted to full-time foreign missionaries, who end up pastoring instead of church planting. There are at least 15 seminaries and Bible schools. Some newer, larger churches provide in-house leadership and theological training. Pray that these schools would be filled with young Spanish future leaders, shaped by solid instruction in the Word of God.

DEC

27

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

They are thankful for the way God continues to bring people their way and ask us to pray for the salvation of Hermes, Diego, Mario, Osmani, Juan Carlos, Camila, and Joaquín. Also, please pray for Andrew & Angie as they seek to promote the ESI ministry for next year. They are hoping to open one or two additional groups. Sometimes they find promotion to be the most difficult part of the process.

Sri Lanka (Asia). Population: 21,713,430 Believers: 1.2%. Tolerance and non-violence have historically been watchwords of Sri Lanka. However, this multi-religious, multi-ethnic country now sees religious extremism and persecution rising. Pray for: a) The disarming of the spiritual powers and principalities that heavily influence a very religious society; b) The exposure of Buddhist extremism as a hateful aberration. Pray that such extremism might create disillusionment and generate interest in the gospel.

DEC

28

Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Ambassadors Football, United States

They now have almost 400 kids on their teams in the Ambassadors Football Club (AFC) in NE Ohio, plus many more on teams in locations around the world. They were grateful to be able to use the soccer field at Parkside to minister to many players this fall. Please pray for all their clubs. With pandemic numbers spiking, many cities and countries are going back into lockdown. Pray for the coaches as they are forced to minister in innovative ways. Pray for Ambassadors as many of the personnel who run clubs have lost ministry opportunities as well as a source of income during this challenging time.

St Helena (Africa). Population: 4,408 Believers: 8.8%. The Christian heritage of St Helena is strong, but islanders committed to faith are decreasing. Most Christians are nominal, and church attendance continues to decline. A critical mass of evangelicals on the islands is needed to generate spiritual momentum. **St Kitts & Nevis (Caribbean).** Population: 58,676 Believers: 21.7%. There is no lack of churches or other ministries on these islands, but their impact is limited. Pray for the Holy Spirit to revive, empower, and embolden believers for Kingdom effectiveness. Pray especially for ministries that draw together the diverse denominations.

DEC

29

Kep & Debbie James, Bolivia

The evangelical Church in Bolivia faces unique challenges: 1) Many Bolivians are struggling from COVID-19; and 2) Evo Morales' MAS (Movement to Socialism) party won the recent election. This will very likely limit freedom to evangelize openly in cities as well as access to Aymara and Quechua villages where they have shared Christ in the past. Please pray that the Church will not walk in fear or lose its focus but will learn to honor Christ by staying true to Jesus, teaching, and preaching the Word of God.

St Lucia (Caribbean). Population: 190,333 Believers: 14.5%. The majority of St Lucians speak a French Creole. The NT, recently translated into Creole, is being used for literacy projects. Pray for the Word of God to be acquired, read, and applied in the lives of St Lucians. **St Martin (Caribbean).** Population: 38,250 Believers: 2.5%. The tropical location and French liberality combine to make this a playground for the most wealthy. Exclusive hotels, clothing-optional beaches, designer-clothing boutiques, and cafés typify the island's culture. There is little room for or interest in a life of service to Christ. Pray that in the midst of this elegant but hedonistic paradise, people might gain a hunger for an eternal heaven.

DEC

30

Fieldstone Counseling, United States

They are grateful for the Lord's continued provision for the ministry in the past year. Pray for them as they plan and prepare for the new year.

They will be hosting several new support groups and special events to serve the local community with biblical wisdom and care. Continue to pray for the preservation and encouragement of their counselors and counselees as they meet for counseling.

St Pierre & Miquelon (North America). Population: 6,046 Believers: <0.1%. These isolated islands and their people have long been Catholic. Traditions are strong and change has come slowly, despite the economic downturn when the fishing industry all but disappeared. Pray for people to find hope in a living relationship with Christ. **St Vincent (Caribbean).** Population: 110,278 Believers: 39.1%. St Vincent is a religious country, but most are not related to God through a personal faith in Jesus Christ. There is a crisis of holiness, lack of spiritual fruit, and growing apathy, especially regarding missions. Pray for revival and for restoration of a biblically based, Spirit-led Church.

DEC

31

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Join Chris and Leanne in thanking the Lord for the new location he provided for their church plant. It is a building which was used as a kindergarten up until three years ago. It offers them great space on

Sundays and for other gatherings. Pray also for the owner of the building who lives next door that he may hear the Lord calling his name. He is so happy to see it being used. Thank the Lord for sending a new family to Japan to join in the harvest. The more lights in a dark place, the better.

Sudan (Africa). Population: 52,308,944 Believers: 14.7%. Persecution of the Church, persisting over most of the last 60 years, has been most intense since 1985. Pray that Christians may bear good witness to their persecutors in these sufferings and become spiritually strong as a result. Pray also that the sufferings of Christians might become widely known and that peace, justice, and religious freedom may be firmly established.

Global prayer requests taken from Mandryk, Jason. Operation World: The definitive prayer guide to every nation. 7th ed. Colorado Springs, CO: Biblica Publishing, 2010. Used with permission.

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Missions: More than Money

Several years ago the elders at Parkside moved from supporting many people with a little bit of funding to supporting a smaller amount of people with a lot of funding. The idea behind this transition was to strengthen the relationship between our church and our missionaries, that we might adequately care for them while on the field and that they might sharpen our desire to see unbelievers reached for Christ.

Practically, this means that our primary approach is now to cover 100% of our missionaries' financial needs so that they can focus their time and energy on their ministry rather than on raising support. When they are home, we provide housing and transportation. When they are away, we speak with them regularly and highlight their activity through various avenues so that our people can stay abreast of their progress and enter into their work by praying for them. Our role does not replace the work of mission agencies, but we seek to provide our missionaries with ongoing care in one place so that they might be most effective for the Kingdom.

As detailed in the pages that follow, we still offer partial financial support to some of the missionaries who we had been partnering with before the transition, as well as some other organizations and individuals.

Learn more about our missionaries and locate contact information for them at www.parksidechurch.com/missions.

Full Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

Japan	Chris & Leanne Harrington
Uruguay	Andrew & Angie James
Bolivia	Kep & Debbie James
United States	E & J, Missionary Couple in Training

Partial Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

Peru/United States	Mark & Patti Bean
Guatemala/Peru/United States	Wes & Nancy Collins
Mexico/United States	Mike & Joan Ross

Financial Support of Nationals

Bolivia

- 18 Bolivians serve as Pastoral Assistants (PAs), a pastor-in-training role. The PAs receive differing levels of support from Parkside Church depending on how long they have been involved and how they are serving.
- Equipping Servants International (ESI) is a three-year, part-time course designed to teach people how to think and live Biblically. ESI has 2,200 graduates since 2002 and 2,170 active participants in 180 groups in 15 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and Venezuela. Parkside Church has and continues to assist in providing participants with the required materials.

Mexico

- 2 Mexican Pastoral Assistants, Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, receive partial financial support from Parkside. They are currently teaching 75 Mexicans to think and live Biblically through the Equipping Servants International (ESI) program in Oaxaca, Chiapas, and Tapachula.

India

- 20 full-time Indian missionaries were trained by the Delhi Bible Institute and sent to Northern India, fully supported by Parkside Church
- 12 Indian students are enrolled in a 9-month full-time preaching training course, fully supported by Parkside Church

South Africa

- Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, a South African working full-time with children & teens in the farm schools of Bloemfontein, receives full financial support from Parkside Church.

Financial Support to Mission Agencies

Christian Counseling Educational Foundation	Fieldstone Counseling
Health for Her (formerly Alternaterm)	Indigenous Church-Planting Organization
Parkside Church Westside	Parkside Green
Scranton Road Bible Church	Shoreline Church
The City Mission	Truth For Life

Financial Support to Mission Individuals

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson	Amy Cottle
Jon (& Ruthie)	Matt (& Laura) Pheneger
Brian (& Maria) Walls	

Parkside Church funding of Missions in 2019: \$2.8 million



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.