

Prayer Calendar

A simple way to pray
for our missionaries

Parkside Church Missions **February**

"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.

Join us Sunday evenings for Missions Prayer Time, online or in-person from 5:00-5:45pm in Room A207. For an online invitation, email jenandrews22@gmail.com.



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

FEB

01

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

They are thankful for the time spent at Parkside, refreshing and reconnecting with friends and family over the past six weeks. Earlier this year the country closed its borders not only to tourists, but also to citizens and residents. Though the borders are now open, the policies are constantly changing and there is risk of that they could close again. Please pray that the James family will be able to safely return to Uruguay on February 12th.

Yeman (Asia). Population: 31,634,843 Believers: <0.1%. Openly believing in Jesus is dangerous for Yemesis-Sharia law, culture, and family expectations are all factors in this. Pray for greater freedom for believers to encourage others to follow Christ and to be agents of cultural transformation. Pray for the transformation of their families, for it is from them that the worst persecution comes. Yemen is one of the world's least evangelized countries, with one of the youngest and fastest-growing populations. Pray for more believers who are willing to live and serve sacrificially and lovingly in this difficult land.

FEB

02

Mark & Patti Bean, Peru, United States

Mark and Patti praise God for meaningful work to extend his Kingdom. As Mark begins mentoring a younger Bible translator, pray that he will have a positive relationship with his mentee and that Mark might be a godly encouragement to him. Mark and Patti are thankful for the opportunity they had to serve their daughter, Emily, the past several months. She and her family have now returned home to Texas. Pray that Emily and Blake will have patient endurance, expectant hope, and creative solutions to daily issues during her slow process of healing.

Zambia (Africa). Population: 16,915,933 Believers: 25.7%. Leadership training is an urgent need, the natural outworking of sustained church growth. This is a massive priority in a land where nominalism and syncretism are common. There are many colleges and Bible schools, representing every major denominational expression. Pray for spiritually and educationally qualified leaders to be prepared through these institutions.

FEB

03

E & J, Missionaries in Training, United States

E & J were thankful for the chance to attend their team retreat in January. They found it valuable and enjoyable to get to know their teammates better and to discuss important topics. As they returned to Kansas City and jumped back into language learning, they are thankful for the smooth transition back into the routine and have been encouraged by their progress. They would like to connect with more North Africans there. Pray that God would direct their steps and provide divine appointments. Please pray also for their brothers and sisters in North Africa who have been prevented from meeting together.

Zimbabwe (Africa). Population: 15,571,017 Believers: 30.9%. As the Church has grown, so have the challenges. Pray for: a) *The relationship with the government.* b) *Social action.* With much of the country in decay, it is increasingly falling to churches to feed the hungry, care for orphans, protect the vulnerable, and heal the sick. c) *Theological training and education*—crucial as the church grows but threatened by widespread instability and want. Pray for effective teaching and discipling of those called to serve the Lord. d) *Spiritual unity.* Divisions and splits still occur. e) *The purity of the Church* is often compromised by traditional African practices that are incompatible with the gospel, often by outright witchcraft and occult activities.

FEB

04

Delhi Bible Institute (DBI), India

In 2020, DBI quickly adapted to the new reality of families totally devastated due to COVID-19. Promptly the situation was assessed, and action was taken to reach out to those affected. 4,169 families were helped with emergency food-aid, and 20,817 masks were sewed and distributed. The need continues to grow while the number of people being affected with the virus grows daily. DBI plans to continue with this response until the situation comes back to normalcy. Pray for safety and perseverance for their staff and students, and for many people to come to know Christ through their efforts.

Afghanistan (Asia). Population: 39,584,751 Believers: <0.05%. Afghanistan is one of the least reached countries in the world. There are 48,000 mosques but not a single church building. Pray for the 70 unreached peoples of this land, especially for the following groups: Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, Uzbeks and Turkmen, the six Aimaq tribes of the west, the nine Nuristani tribal groups in the mountains north and east of Kabul, the five Ismaili Muslim Pamir people groups and the Kyrgyz living in the far northeast of Afghanistan, the numerous Dardic people groups near the volatile border region with Pakistan, the nomadic Gujar, and Jugi/Kuchi/Ghorbat people groups.

FEB

05

Kep & Debbie James, Bolivia

Pray for Kep and Debbie as they finish up their Home Assignment in Ohio this month. Kep leaves on February 11 to spend four weeks with a pastoral training ministry in Africa. Please pray for him as he meets with pastors in several African countries. Pray that God will give him wisdom to see how to encourage and help this ministry as it seeks to honor Christ by raising-up church planters. Pray for Debbie as she remains in Ohio and continues to share the gospel and disciple women from their church in Bolivia online. The ILC Church in La Paz is back to virtual meetings only, as COVID-19 has dramatically increased in Bolivia in recent weeks. Pray that Pastor Pepe and the elders will be passionate about Jesus and focused on gospel transformation in their preaching and teaching, resulting in an expansion of gospel outreach. Pray that Kep and Debbie will be able to receive a COVID-19 immunization before returning to Bolivia in mid-March.

Albania (Europe). Population: 3,337,789 Believers: 0.5%. The Albanian Church is maturing from the infancy stages of the 1990's into a wide-ranging community of believers with greater indigenous leadership, nationwide organizational structures, and a more holistic vision for discipleship and evangelism. Holistic mission is possibly the defining ministry of the young Albanian Church. Almost all mission agencies and national ministries combine practical and much-needed assistance with sharing the gospel. Pray that such efforts might bear fruit that matures and expands the Church and transforms the country.

FEB
06

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

Ambassadors Football highly values its relationship with the Church. Through their camps, they partner with churches around the world. Many churches are asking the Ambassador ministry to train them to do their own on-going soccer ministry so that kids and their families will hear the gospel on an on-going basis and be drawn to their congregations. Please pray for them as they seek to come alongside others to envision and train them to be salt and light in their communities through soccer. Also, please pray for Matt as he and his family mourn the recent, unexpected death of his mom.

Algeria (Africa). Population: 40,630,046 Believers: 0.2%. Persecution of Christians is intensifying as a reaction to unprecedented church growth; the future of the Church in Algeria hangs in the balance. Legislation passed has made proselytism a criminal offence. The Algerian Church has grown due to bold witness and evangelism. Pray that they will respond to these pressures with faith and perseverance.

FEB
07

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

In the past couple months, they saw God work in a six-year-old boy who would not speak. His mother had brought him to many doctors, even expensive spiritual "doctors." The Harringtons began to pray for him as a family, and Chris prayed for him before a performance event. Since that time, God began to open his mouth. He continues to gain more and more words and confidence to speak out. He can now speak at school to his teachers! His family prepared a special dinner to thank them for praying for their son, and Chris pointed them to God. He is the Healer! Pray that this family would begin to believe in the God who healed their son. Since the summer, Chris was asked to lead all the SEND missionaries in the Northern region of Japan. As COVID-19 spreads in their area, pray that God would give him wisdom as he makes decisions on how to continue to minister safely and respectfully. Also, a new missionary is scheduled to join their team next month. Please pray he can enter the country with the ever-changing travel restrictions.

American Samoa (Pacific). Population: 79,811 Believers: 21.3%. American Samoa enjoys a higher economic status than Samoa to its west, but suffers the concomitant materialism. Pray that the indigenous people (and their relatives in diaspora) may find their destiny in wholehearted commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for awakening and renewal in these rapidly declining churches. **Principality of Andorra (Europe).** Population: 100,129 Believers: 0.4%. Ask God to reinvigorate the Christian spiritual life of Andorra by the Holy Spirit and to expose and disarm the power of the occult. Pray that all faithful disciples of Christ might have the passion and discernment that will enable them to effectively share their faith.

FEB

08

Parkside Green, United States

Please ask the Lord to work through Pastor Adam's winter series on rebuilding from the book of Nehemiah. Pray that God would draw the congregation closer to himself and to each other through new "tiny groups" and expanded online ministry. Also, join them in asking the Lord to accomplish his purposes through the missionaries they support in Dubai, UAE, and those formerly in Nairobi, Kenya who are moving to a new assignment in Uganda.

Angola (Africa). Population: 24,507,000 Believers: 22.5%. Much prayer is needed, as non-practicing Christians number in the millions. Pray for Christ-like, holy living by believers that not only commends the gospel to unbelievers, but also passionately reaches disillusioned, apathetic neighbors. Christian leadership is still the most critical challenge before the Church. Only a fraction of congregations has trained pastors. Pray for provision of funds, buildings, libraries and, above all, godly teachers; pray also for effective spiritual growth and ministry of those trained.

FEB

09

Amy Cottle, Thailand

Amy and her team are thankful for the faithful prayers for the students and community in Maha Sarakham. The university moved to online classes in January and the students who regularly attended the student center gatherings are no longer allowed to come. Thank God that three other students and an international professor visited a Sunday service at the center and learned about prayer for the first time. Pray that Ning, Gan, Grace, and Alice will seek the Lord through prayer. Pray also that the activities at the student center will continue to have an eternal impact for the glory of God.

Anguilla (Caribbean). Population: 17,811 Believers: 17.2%. Pray that religious traditions might be infused with real spiritual life. Pray that Christ's followers may function effectively as a united body. **Antigua and Barbuda (Caribbean).** Population: 97,436 Believers: 19.9%. Antiguans are almost all Christian by background, including many evangelicals, but complacency prevails in the face of serious moral and spiritual challenges. Pray for revival that galvanizes Christians to prayer, and for involvement that impacts their society.

FEB

10

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

Brian is thankful that their Campus Life (suburban outreach) groups in Brooklyn, Chardon, Independence, Nordonina, and Parma are going well. Because of pandemic restrictions, they have switched to small group ministry and are finding students more willing to talk about God, given all that is going on in the nation and world. Please pray that the gospel can be shared with many of them. Pray for Grace Haven (sex trafficking outreach) as volunteer mentors are paired with the young ladies. Pray that there would be opportunities for every young lady to be introduced to Christ and to realize their true worth in the Lord. Brian is thankful for our partnership in sharing the life-changing message of Jesus Christ with lost young people.

Argentina (Latin America). Population: 44,304,105 Believers: 9.1%. Spiritual hunger led to growth. Pray that the Spirit will continue to draw many to himself and to do a deep work in believers. But spiritual openness is also seeing many drawn into cults, including Umbanda occultism from Brazil as well as to churches with some questionable teachings. Pray that those enslaved to sin will find freedom in Christ.

FEB

11

Mike & Joan Ross, Mexico, United States

Please continue to pray that God will provide for the many people in Oaxaca with limited access to medical care during the pandemic as cases continue to increase. Thank God that critical medical flights are still happening in Mexico. 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. Pray that doors will remain open for international travel as trips are planned for this year. Continue to pray that the Ross' three sons, along with their families, will serve God with their whole hearts.

Armenia (Asia). Population: 3,175,114 Believers: 8.7%. Armenia was the world's first Christian nation and enjoys a great spiritual legacy of more than 1,700 years of Christianity. The Armenian Apostolic Church has long been a cultural refuge in times of persecution, but the very traditional nature of the Church, which is key to Armenian self-identity, also keeps them from discovering the living Christ. Pray for deep spiritual regeneration of the Church and for godly leaders. This Church will almost certainly remain the dominant religious force in Armenian life. Therefore, pray that there would be a radical transformation therein that sees Christ glorified and many saved.

FEB

12

Fieldstone Counseling, United States

Fieldstone is grateful for the Lord's sustaining grace and provision in 2020. Pray for them as they seek to grow and refine the ministry through exciting administrative changes. These changes will allow them to serve those whom they counsel and their counseling staff with increased efficiency. Pray that the transition to a new system goes smoothly. They will also be hosting several new support groups and special events to serve the local community with biblical wisdom and care. Continue to pray for perseverance and encouragement for the counselors and counselees as they meet for counseling.

Aruba (Caribbean). Population: 110,721 Believers: 7.6%. Unity in Christ among believers is a key issue for the diverse churches in Aruba. Division can undermine any numerical growth of believers. The greatest threat to this unity is the importation of alien theology, church culture and preaching style common among the televangelists and prosperity preachers seen on foreign Christian TV. **Bahamas (Caribbean).** Population: 384,329 Believers: 35.9%. Christian commitment is low and nominalism widespread, despite nearly all Bahamians claiming to be Christian. Pray for revival and for a missionary vision among believers.

FEB

13

Wes & Nancy Collins, Guatemala, Peru, United States

Praise God that Wes' ankle replacement surgery was successful. There is another month of physical therapy involved, but the cast and the boot are gone, and leisurely walking is prescribed. Continue to pray for his full recovery.

Australia (Pacific). Population: 23,669,589 Believers: 14.4%. The Church in Australia faces a mighty challenge—to remain relevant. While over two-thirds of Australians identify themselves in some way as Christian, only 10% regularly attend church, and increasing numbers have negative attitudes toward the Church's perceived intolerance and authoritarianism. Pray for reformation and revival of the Church, and for this to impact every sphere of society.

FEB

14

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

As they settle back into life in Uruguay, please pray that God would continue to grant Andrew and Angie wisdom and grace to lead the church through these challenging times and allow them to faithfully serve his people. Pray also for the ESI ministry in Uruguay. They hope to open one or two new groups this year and are now in the process of finding new participants.

Austria (Europe). Population: 8,539,439 Believers: 0.5%. Austria, a nation of culture, music, art, and beautiful scenery, lies for the most part spiritually empty. While 84% of Austrians believe in God (high for Europe), few have met Jesus personally. Rates of suicide, abortion, and alcoholism indicate the great need for spiritual foundations. Pray for the shell of religion in this nation to be filled by the living presence of Christ.

FEB
15

Shoreline Church, United States

Please pray that the leaders and participants of Shoreline Students and Women's Bible Studies ministries will grow closer to the Lord and develop friendships within their groups. Please pray for their church leadership as they identify members of their congregation to serve in various ministry opportunities. Continue to pray that the Lord would grant their pastors and elders strength and hope as they daily trust in him for wisdom and help. They are thankful for each prayer.

Azerbaijan (Asia). Population: 9,837,837 Believers: 0.2%. The openness and freedoms immediately following independence have dwindled somewhat, in terms of religion, media, and human rights. The state feels threatened by many forces, internal and external. Pray for increased commitment to fundamental freedoms and for disassociation of the gospel message from foreign cultures. The Church faces intensifying opposition, even as it grows. Many churches find intimidation, surveillance, and obstructionist tactics increasingly common. Pray that Christian witness to the majority Muslim population may be with humility, wisdom, and love.

FEB
16

February 16: 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 Ascarraga, 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.

Bahrain (Asia). Population: 953,213 Believers: 2.9%. Bahrain enjoys greater freedoms than almost all Gulf countries and therefore is spiritually strategic. With greater freedoms, the accompanying vices are becoming problems. Many Saudis and Kuwaitis visit there to enjoy the more relaxed environment. Pray for them to meet Christians and encounter the gospel. Praise God for the local believers. Some are integrated into the various churches; others are in more informal networks. Pray for spiritual growth and especially for unity and cooperation among these groups, as a testimony to their fellow Arabs.

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 MISSIONARIES **MIKE AND JOAN ROSS**



Dear Parkside Friends,

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel.

It is a privilege for us to serve in Latin America. There is no doubt that a lot has changed in all our lives over the last year with the Pandemic, but God has kept doors open for ministry in many places.

The Mexican team is serving some of the neediest people in the State of Oaxaca. Our flying with Mission Aviation Fellowship opens doors for the Gospel in isolated indigenous communities and provides opportunities to encourage new believers who face open opposition to their faith. Mike makes several trips a year to help with the flight and maintenance. We collaborate with the Oaxacan government to move critically ill patients to the hospital in the City of Oaxaca. During most of this year we have been the only group willing to move patients by air because of this crisis.

One of the special opportunities we have is to work alongside indigenous pastors like Pedro, Galvino, Ciprio and Gaudencio. They speak the heart language of the people and share the Gospel in culturally appropriate ways. These pastors decide where Parkside dental and work teams will serve.

These teams have been instrumental in helping make contacts in communities otherwise closed to the Gospel. Demonstrating God's love meeting the physical needs of people has eternal impact. We are often asked "why?" these teams come to serve which allows us to share the Good News. Our teams are eagerly looking forward to returning to Oaxaca as soon as soon as it is allowed by the government.

God has worked amazingly through the church plant that we were blessed to work with in Oaxaca as it continues to grow. God brought a Mexican pastor committed to studying and systematically preaching the Word. They were able to use technology over the last year to share the church services over social media platforms. God has used it to reach many people who would not have considered entering an evangelical church before hearing and understanding the Word.

Our mission has asked us to take on a new role which is focused on discipling young men and woman in Latin America who desire to serve in missions as pilots and mechanics. We currently have several people in various stages of the training process and one couple preparing to serve in a country closed to traditional missions. It is exciting to see God opening doors for these brothers and sisters in Christ to serve in international missions.

IN CHRIST,
MIKE AND JOAN



Top left: Pilot training in Haiti. *Top right:* The dental team performing a basic check. *Bottom left:* The church plant in Oaxaca during a virtual service. *Bottom right:* Moving critically ill patients to the hospital in Oaxaca.

FEB

17

Truth For Life, United States

Pray with thanks for how God continues to provide for Truth For Life. Pray that the Lord will guide and direct the team to use all that has been given according to God's will and purpose. Pray that God will provide needed team members in Customer Service and in Information Technology.

Bangladesh (Asia). Population: 185,552,357 Believers: 0.4%. Religious discrimination and tension is rising. Islamists, while a small minority, exert increasing pressure for governance by shari'a principles. Christians, Buddhists, and especially Hindus suffer as persecution intensifies, occasionally to the point of destruction of property and sometimes even death. Pray for binding of the powers of darkness operating in religious, social, and ethnic realms. Pray also that the constitutional freedom allowing all to practice and propagate their own religions might be maintained.

FEB

18

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 from surgery and for effective treatment for Karina as she battles cancer. Pray that God would continue to bless his Word as it is proclaimed in Tapachula.

Barbados (Caribbean). Population: 261,687 Believers: 34.2%. External challenges to the gospel are evident—increased activity in and acceptance of the occult as well as intensified efforts by Muslims and Mormons to win those disillusioned with what they see of traditional Christianity. Pray for the confounding of these efforts and for true Christians to powerfully demonstrate God's love and truth. **Belize (Latin America).** Population: 374,549 Believers: 18.8%. Belizeans are largely professing Christians, but syncretism is common. The Spanish-speaking immigrants with their superstitions, the Mayans with their underlying paganism, and the Garifuna with their black magic all need a culturally relevant and sensitive presentation of the true gospel.

FEB

19

The City Mission, United States

Many challenges face the mothers, children, and staff of Laura's Home including remote learning and children needing special care. Please pray that more volunteers would feel called to serve at Laura's Home daily so they can provide additional support for these needs. Pray also that the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of all residents—making his transforming power evident to their family and friends. Pray for Logan, who joined the Crossroads Safety and Security team. Pray for the effectiveness of a course titled, "Touch of Reality," to minister to men overcoming trauma. Pray for The City Mission staff, volunteers, and interns as many of them take on additional roles to serve a vulnerable population during the pandemic.

Belarus (Europe). Population: 9,112,495 Believers: 1.3%. Evangelical Christians are increasing despite concerted opposition and intensifying persecution. The state steadfastly maintains laws that forbid meeting in homes for worship, forming congregations of less than 20 people, opening religious schools, ministering outside of the home city, and importing and distributing non-state-approved literature. All religious activity must receive state permission. Pray for divine openings and opportunities for those God is calling into Belarus; pray also that the national Church would be specially enabled to evangelize, disciple, and minister without the partnership of many foreign Christian workers.

FEB

20

B & J, United States

In reading Ephesians 4:11-12 recently, B & J were reminded of how Christ equips the saints for the work of ministry. Encouraged, they persevere in daily prayer and gospel works as the Lord directs their steps so that they can be fruitful for him. Time spent with former teammates was also encouraging as they witnessed their perseverance during these uncertain times and their desire to go back overseas. Pray with B & J as they seek God's will about returning to overseas missions. Also, pray for them as they serve in their local church: B praying and teaching in a men's leadership group and J serving through music and singing. They are thankful for our prayers.

Belgium (Europe). Population: 11,048,254 Believers: 1.2%. The Bible has been reintroduced to Belgian society after many centuries of being discouraged, even banned, by the Catholic Church before 1960. Pray that the Word of God might take root deeply within the fabric of Belgium society.

FEB
21

Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, South Africa

Thank the Lord that their Christmas celebration was wonderful and worshipful. Pray that God will favor their church in South Africa with encouragement at a time when so many people are worried, stressed, and concerned for their health. The country finds itself in the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and regulations have closed churches. Pray for God's protection for the poor, for those who lack medical assistance, and for those most vulnerable to infection. The high death rate has produced a shortage of coffins; some families have even resorted to digging up old coffins in which to bury their loved ones. Praise God that their Good News Club received food supplements to boost the children's immune systems. Please pray that their ministry will reach many more people for Christ this year.

Benin (Africa). Population: 12,176,895 Believers: 8.3%. Animism is a powerful force in Benin. Although Christianity is poised to numerically overtake ethnic religions in the near future, far too many Christians have a syncretized, compromised, faith that sees them in church on Sunday and consulting the witch doctor during the week. Pray for a revival that purifies the Church and sees Christians honoring God alone. Pray also for many witch doctors to experience the power of Jesus and turn to Him.

FEB
22

Scranton Road Bible Church, United States

Ask the Lord to bless a new process for discipleship which they are implementing for their teen ministry. Praise the Lord for new members, new baptisms, and renewed commitments to the Lord. Pray for discernment as they begin raising up and training new men for leadership as elders. Pray for God's continued wisdom for their leadership as they navigate COVID-19 in 2021 and the complexities of increased needs in their neighborhood.

Bermuda (North America). Population: 65,846 Believers: 24.3%. Bermuda is an earthly paradise, and Christianity is a strong part of its heritage. Sadly, the appearance of religion takes priority over genuine spirituality. Pray for revival that brings lifestyles in line with biblical knowledge. **Bhutan (Asia).** Population: 819,781 Believers: 1.8%. Bhutan was effectively closed to all Christian witness until 1965. Christians are denied religious freedom and are persecuted in various ways. Despite these, groups of believers are forming and increasingly spreading across the breadth of the country. Pray for the growth of the Church in this land.

FEB
23

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

Praise God for the five ESI groups meeting in Guatemala. They report good progress in their study through the book of Romans. Many of the 50 participants give testimony of how God is speaking deeply into their lives, and how they are getting serious about Jesus and the gospel as the passion and center of their lives and ministries. Thank God for good reports from ESI participants in other countries studying through the Bible. Even with COVID-19 restrictions, ESI still has 2,200 participants meeting in 176 groups in 15 countries. Pray that the Lord will use the study of his Word to increase gospel impact in many churches, and that the result will be churches motivated to make Christ known, since no one should live or die without having the opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus.

Bolivia (Latin America). Population: 11,637,914 Believers: 16.2%. The spiritual grip of the enemy remains strong after centuries of entrenched paganism and continues its hold on the Church. Christians now recognize that spiritual warfare is essential to consolidate what breakthroughs have been achieved. Pray that the Church will wake up to the enemy's deep-seated influence, bind the strong man, and pray for transformation and harvest.

FEB
24

Health for Her—Cleveland, United States

With newly elected county administrators taking office, pray for God's continued protection of the center and their work. Pray for the health and well-being of all essential staff from COVID-19 as they minister to women with unwanted pregnancies. Pray that the hearts of the women they serve will be open to Christ.

Bosnia (Europe). Population: 3,676,677 Believers: 0.1%. Evangelical believers have increased significantly but still represent only a miniscule proportion of the population. Pray for believers and their witness in this divided land. Bosnia is not a spiritually receptive place; pray that many hearts might open to the gospel.

FEB
25

Indigenous Church-Planting Organization in Arab and Muslim Countries

In late December, after a month of training in South Sudan, 90 students and 19 pastors split into teams to visit villages in the surrounding area. In the first two weeks, they reached 16,000 people with the Good News and 14,783 have accepted Christ! Pray that these thousands of new believers will be able to be discipled and form churches. Pray that their goal of sending 100,000 Bibles to South Sudan will be reached. Pray for Brother Philip to be filled with the Holy Spirit and power as he teaches in Chad. Pray for God's protection over the health of all their church planters, evangelists, and students.

Botswana (Africa). Population: 2,227,418 Believers: 8.1%. Botswana is a rare African state-economic growth is steady, corruption rare, and a multiparty democracy the norm. Praise God for the stability that enables the government to build up the nation's infrastructure. Give thanks also for religious freedom and openness, allowing many agencies to establish work here, from evangelism and church planting to more social and holistic ministries. AIDS has devastated the country. Pray for the government, the many ministries working with AIDS victims and orphans, and for individual church congregations.

FEB

26

Jon (& Ruthie), Ambassadors Football, United States

They are thankful for the reassurance of God's peace in times of trouble (John 16:33). Jon is also grateful for how God used the pandemic in 2020 to slow down Ambassadors Football as a global mission and bring them together in greater unity. Their regular global meetings have resulted in growing closer to the Lord and to each other. God has also provided for the needs of the missionaries in 30+ countries! Please pray for continued provision and growth for the ministry in 2021.

Brazil (Latin America). Population: 209,051,123 Believers: 26.3%. The emergence of evangelicals in Brazil has been dramatic. Yet despite the growth, there are many prayer needs. Numerical rather than spiritual growth is the emphasis of too many groups, to the point of dishonest inflation of numbers and disregard for discipleship. Such zeal without maturity leads to spiritual error, nominalism, widespread church-hopping without commitment to a church, and large-scale backsliding.

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

Pray for the approximately 700 international students who joined their annual conference virtually in January. Pray that God would continue to create opportunities for students to engage with others spiritually and to grow in their knowledge of God's Word. Praise God for reports of some trusting in Christ. Pray that international students would be established in their faith during the follow-up and discipleship process. Pray for Bruno, a Bridges student alumnus from Brazil, who Blake befriended in 2012. After years of not being in touch, they reconnected recently and Blake invited him to the conference. After attending he was encouraged to continue to pursue his relationship with God. They thank God for his goodness in allowing them to spend over two months with family in Cleveland, helping them adjust to being a family of four. Please continue to pray for Emily's recovery and healing as she balances her time between family and the Bridges ministry.

British Virgin Islands (Caribbean). Population: 25,290 Believers: 27.3%. The motto of the Virgin Islands is, “Where there’s no vision, the people will perish.” Pray that local Christians might recover a powerful vision for the lost in their own islands and abroad. **Brunei (Asia).** Population: 478,259 Believers: 6.1%. Islam dominates life in Brunei, with a brand that is conservative but not radical. Pray for an atmosphere of religious freedom and spiritual openness and for the observance of the constitutional right for other religions to be practiced. The effective evangelism of Brunei is a target set by several mission groups and by churches in neighboring countries. Pray for creative and powerful means of bringing the good news to those in Brunei. Pray for an opening for Kingdom workers to minister inside the nation.

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Parkside Church Westside, United States

They praise God for the simple joy of being able to gather and worship together on Sundays. Please pray for their ongoing ministries, the discipling of their students, and their community groups that are starting a new study on 1 & 2 Samuel. Pray that everyone in the congregation would be nourished by the rich grace of the Lord Jesus and find encouragement in his word as they persevere through trying days. Pray that visitors to the church would encounter the gospel message during their time there and would choose to return. They are thankful for our faithful prayers!

Bulgaria (Europe). Population: 7,017,086 Believers: 1.9%. Bulgaria’s troubled past is not yet completely behind. Corruption and powerful organized crime syndicates persist. Poverty is widespread, as are divorce and abortion—there are more abortions than live births. Many of the youngest and brightest emigrate seeking jobs and money. Pray that wholeness will come to this nation as only the transforming gospel can bring.

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 2,200 active participants in 176 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 pastor 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
 Health for Her—Cleveland (formerly Alternaterrm)

Fieldstone Counseling
 Indigenous Church-Planting
 Organization

Parkside Church Westside
 Scranton Road Bible Church
 The City Mission

Parkside Green
 Shoreline Church
 Truth For Life

Financial Support to Mission Individuals

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson
 Jon (& Ruthie)
 Brian (& Maria) Walls

Amy Cottle
 Matt (& Laura) Pheneger

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



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.