



Missions Prayer Calendar

A SIMPLE WAY TO PRAY
FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

MAY

"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 toward seeing unbelieving people of all nations become committed followers of Christ!



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

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 A205. For an online invitation, email Cliff at cjjbandrews@sbcglobal.net.



Learn

Increase your awareness of what God is doing among the nations by reading *Operation World* by Jason Mandryk. You can pick up a copy of the book at Books by the Park. The prayer requests for different countries in this calendar are excerpts from that book and the operationworld.org website.



Give

Thanks to your generous giving, we were able to allocate \$3,543,635 towards missions in 2023. 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 God 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



E & J*

M, J, C

**Names withheld for security purposes*



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



B & J*

M, O, P, P, G

**Names withheld for security purposes*



Mike & Joan Ross

Steve, Ben, Aaron

MAY

01

E & J, North Africa

E & J are grateful for our prayers concerning E and their teammates' time in NYC applying for visas. Everyone got the best kind of visa they could possibly get! Thank God that E & J and all their teammates made it back to their country of service and were admitted without any problems. E & J weren't sure if they would get to come back home, go back to school, and continue talking to friends there, among other things. They are thankful that God has maintained an open door for them to continue working in their country. Pray for their family as they resume their daily routines.

Ukraine (Europe). Population: 38,980,377 Believers: 3.8%. The Russian invasion of 2022, Russian support of the breakaway republics of Donetsk and Luhansk, the occupation of the Crimea and the Euromaidan of 2014, and the Orange Revolution of 2004-5 all demonstrate Russia's determination to dominate Ukraine. They also equally demonstrate Ukraine's determination to be free. Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced, and hundreds of thousands have been killed. Whenever the conflict ends—and on whatever terms it ends—rebuilding from the devastation will take years, or even decades. Pray for the intervention of the God who makes wars cease to the ends of the earth and who breaks the bow and shatters the spear (Psa 46:9). Pray for wisdom from above, and divine fortitude for Ukraine's leaders and its people.

MAY

02

Kep & Debbie James, Africa, Europe, and the Americas

Thank the Lord for the encouraging time Kep and Debbie spent in Bolivia last month with the ILC Church they planted in La Paz, Bolivia, in 1990. It was encouraging seeing the pastors there growing in their desire to honor Christ and stay true to his Scriptures. Pray for the Equipping Servants International (ESI) groups that Pastor Edgar Mamani is leading in the Tipnis area of the Bolivian jungle, helping rural pastors study the Bible in communities that are traditionally very resistant to the gospel.

United Arab Emirates (Asia). Population: 11,346,000 Believers: 1.3%. The religious freedom enjoyed by all major faith groups is notable. Increased numbers of people [are] coming to Christ from other backgrounds. This is shifting from a trickle to a flow as more and more Arabs, South Asians, East Asians, and others meet Jesus in a personal way. Some ministers are overwhelmed by responses to the gospel—praise God for such a challenge!

MAY

03

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

Pray for Bobby and Julie as they continue to study the Russian language, which allows them to share God's Word. Pray for wisdom for their business, for God's provision for facilities and vehicles, and for the best use of their time. Pray for Katrina, a sister in Christ who rents Bobby and Julie's home in St. Paul, MN, who unexpectedly lost her 14-year-old son.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Europe).

Population: 69,551,332 Believers: 8.8%. A national awakening is needed. The steep decline of organized Christianity in the UK is almost unparalleled in Europe. Pray that Christians might grow passionate for God's honor, burdened to pray for revival, and free from deadening negativism and materialism that pervade the churches.

MAY

04

Truth For Life, United States

Please pray for the 16 translation/publishing partners visiting Truth For Life May 5-7 for Basics 2025. Pray for their safe travels to and from their home countries, including Malaysia, Netherlands, Brazil, Pakistan, Poland, China, and others. Pray that the visit offers refreshment, fellowship, and a time to share ideas about reaching more people around the world with the gospel through Alistair's teaching. Pray for Truth For Life's Digital Communications team as they partner with the Basics 2025 video team to make the conference available via livestream. Pray that all goes without difficulty and that the closed captioning in eight languages works effectively and brings the conference sessions to many in their native languages.

England (Europe). Population: 51,460,000. England is the most secular of the four countries that comprise the UK. Notional Christianity is giving way to atheism as the main barrier to true faith; the trappings of inherited cultural forms of Christianity are being discarded. This presents both a great challenge and a new opportunity for a fresh start to the re-evangelization of England. Pray that the Holy Spirit may break into lives and bring a sense of the reality of God and the truth of the gospel.

MAY

05

Mark & Patti Bean, Peru, United States

May 5-24 is another translation workshop for the four central Peruvian Quechua teams. Pray for Mark as he teaches, guides, and checks the work they plan to do covering Genesis 33-44 and the books of Ruth and Jonah. It's a lot of concentration, especially when done at a distance. Mark is also still helping the Panatawa Quechua team work through 1 Samuel. Pray for the teams in Peru to be impacted by God's Word as they work on getting it into their language. Pray for refreshment for their daughter-in-law Rachel, who is exhausted from the stress of dealing with her son Jeremiah's leukemia over the past two years and for Patti as she assists their son with the children while Rachel is away with her sister and mom for a week.

Northern Ireland (Europe). Population: 1,775,000. Segregation and sectarianism remain, despite the prevalent peace. Separate confessions, separate churches, separate schools, separated communities keep Ulster a divided land. Northern Ireland's history has long been used as an example of religion's destructive influence; pray that it may become a testimony of faith's power to heal and restore.

MAY

06

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

Andrew and Angie are thankful their children are doing well. Please pray that they grow up to love and serve the Lord with all their hearts.

They begin a new ESI group this month, with pastors from four different cities in Uruguay gathering to study God's Word. Pray that meetings would help build fellowship among pastors and would encourage them to be grounded in God's Word.

Scotland (Europe). Population: 5,169,000. There is a shortage of clergy; many current clergy are out of touch with the needs of their congregations. Nominalism is widespread, liberal theology still dominant, and Freemasonry influential. Still, there are stirrings of new life through those evangelicals who remain. Pray for the Church of Scotland to return to its biblical roots and to the radical, but biblically grounded, faith of its early martyrs.

MAY

07

Human Coalition (Health for Her Cleveland), United States

Thank God that the Knights of Columbus gifted the pregnancy center with a brand-new state-of-the-art ultrasound machine which will allow their staff to show moms a crystal-clear image of their babies. Pray for the speedy arrival of new marketing plans to allow them to connect with more clients facing unplanned pregnancies. Pray for the moms and dads who feel hopeless in their circumstances and ask that God would use the Health for Her staff as the hands and feet of Jesus to minister to their needs.

Wales (Europe). Population: 2,990,999. Wales is known as the land of revivals and the land of song. From early in the 18th century, Wales experienced a consistent series of revivals, the last of these occurring in 1904. Since then, the decline in church attendance and closure of churches in Wales have been higher than in any other part of the UK. In recent years, though, pockets of growth have appeared, especially within evangelical congregations that both proclaim the gospel and demonstrate it through community involvement. Pray that revival may come again and that the entire country will again sing the praises of Jesus.

MAY

08

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

Pray that God will continue to give Edgar wisdom in assembling a Mexican board for the Missions Aviation Fellowship (MAF) work in Mexico. Pray for the two ESI groups that he is leading in Oaxaca and for a new group forming in Ensenada. Pray for the Bible study he recently started with two families in the town of San Lucas. Pray that Neri will have wisdom as he facilitates ESI groups in the state of Chiapas. Pray for continued growth of the church plant. Pray for strength for Neri as he continues treatment for lymphoma and for wisdom to work within his physical limitations. Pray for healing for Neri and for extra strength for Karina during this difficult time. Join them in thanking God for the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Fernando.

Isle of Man (Europe). Population: 80,000. Isle of Man has a long Christian tradition, but just as in the UK, nominalism is rife and non-religion is growing. Pray that the church will continue to strive to bring people back into the fold and that the Isle of Man might see an awakening. **Channel Islands (Europe).** Population: 150,000. The relative prosperity and an emphasis on material wealth have inevitably blunted the spiritual life of the islands; pray for an awakening.

MAY

09

Parkside Green, United States

Pray for the Lord to work in the lives of those who were part of the Holy Week gatherings last month so that they will become committed followers of Jesus Christ. Also, pray that God will be honored, and people will be blessed by the baptisms on Mother's Day. Lastly, please join them in asking the Lord to work through their global partners: Dr. Jen Kintner in Dubai, UAE; Brett and Jennifer Wright in Arua, Uganda; and Bryan and Erin Joseph, studying Spanish at the Rio Grande Bible Institute and Language School before serving in Mexico.

United States of America (North America). Population: 347,275,808

Believers: 28.9%. The church in the USA is as deeply divided as the nation itself. The USA's spiritual heritage has long been under attack by those opposed to the gospel, but no external enemies have done more damage than the politicization of Christianity and accompanying polarization in the body. The idol of nationalism—"Christian" or otherwise—is a blight on the message of the gospel, as is any ideology that divides or distracts believers from their core identity as the body of Christ. Pray for the Lord to raise up believers who will fearlessly and publicly place their oneness in Christ above all race, ethnicity, gender, and ideology! Everything else must be placed at the nailed-pierced feet of Jesus on the throne. May such faithful saints be an inspiration to others and a healing salve on America's wounds.

MAY

10

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson, Bridges International, Australia

Pray for their South Asian ministry at the University of Sydney. There is a growing community of 30 students, mostly from a Hindu background.

In April, they were able to share the gospel during an Easter outreach.

During their *Friends for Dinner* outreach last month, Christian host families connected with 66 students over a meal. Pray that the hosts would continue to reach out to these students and that there would be opportunities to explore Jesus. Most international students are busy in May preparing for exams. Pray for opportunities to love and share about the hope of Jesus before the semester ends.

Uruguay (South America). Population: 3,384,688 Believers: 6.2%. Uruguay has the most secular society in South America. Most Uruguayans follow a "do-it-yourself" spirituality influenced by New Age ideas. The nation is 55% Catholic (the lowest in Spanish-speaking Latin America), and only 2% attend mass. Afro-Brazilian Spiritism attracts many people. Pray for the Holy Spirit to expose religious deceptions and defeat the demonic powers behind them.

MAY

11

Parkside Heights Church, United States

Parkside Heights Church held baptisms after the morning service on May 4. Pray that the testimonies of those who were baptized will have a lasting impact on all who attended. In addition to having Sunday church services at John Hay High School, Parkside Heights has been involved in their school sponsored mentoring program. Several people from the congregation have mentored John Hay students, and as the school year draws to a close, these mentors will give the students a devotional Bible. Pray that the students will read it and desire to know more about the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Uzbekistan (Asia). Population: 37,053,428 Believers: 0.3%. Uzbek believers continue to increase despite great opposition. The prospect of retribution from three sides—the government, local Muslim leaders, and the community (family and neighbors)—has not halted growth. There are now probably more than 10,000 Uzbek believers, where there were possibly none only a generation ago. But much prayer is still needed for the discipling and mentoring of new believers and for indigenous leadership to be raised up.

MAY

12

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Chris and Leanne are thankful for our prayers and support during the Japanese Homestay visit. They were blessed to have some of their Japanese church family meet their Parkside church family. Praise God for safety in all the travel and health of the participants and host families. The Japanese chaperones were encouraged by some of the conversations they were able to have with the students. Please continue to pray for these students and their families to have a relationship with their creator God.

Vanuatu (Pacific). Population 335,169 Believers: 45.9%. The Protestant church is numerically strong. Revival has occurred on some islands and in several denominations, but not in all places. Pray for the training of future leaders in the seven Bible colleges/schools. Pray that pastors and group leaders would lead with guidance from both the Word and Spirit. **Virgin Islands of the USA (Caribbean).** Population: 84,139 Believers: 23.8%. Tourism and the influx of wealth affect society profoundly, corroding its moral fabric. Pray that the gospel might impact society, personal lifestyles, and family life. Pray that local churches and their leaders may work together in evangelism and in vision for the future.

MAY

13

The City Mission, United States

Praise the Lord for mothers and children who are now thriving because of the loving, Christ-centered support they receive at Laura's Home. Pray for them as they continue their journey. Pray that Crossroads will continue to be a home where the lives of men in crisis are transformed by the power of God's love. Ask God for strength, wisdom, and patience for all the staff and volunteers as they provide help and hope to those in crisis situations.

Venezuela (Latin America). Population: 28,516,896 Believers: 10.8%. Spiritual forces battle in Venezuela. Both rich and poor visit witch doctors in the thousands of spiritist and occult shops. Fewer people go to church in Venezuela than in any other Latin American nation. New Age spirituality attracts the educated and rich. Satanists actively try to destroy the church. Caracas has Latin America's largest mosque. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bind all the powers that blind Venezuelans to Truth, and to reveal Christ to all.

MAY

14

Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

The Ambassadors Football staff around the world are facing significant challenges. Lucasse in Haiti and Daniel in Mozambique are dealing with gangs and civil unrest that threaten their safety. Wives and relatives of several of the staff globally are experiencing significant health issues that require visits to hospitals and to specialists. Pray for their staff as they continue to do the work to which God has called them while also serving their families. Pray for continued blessing on the work they did last month in Liberia, training over 60 coaches involving 20 churches. Pray for direction as they consider ministry in a sensitive southeast Asian country.

Vietnam (Asia). Population: 101,598,527 Believers: 1.8%. A growing, witnessing church is emerging from years of persecution. The Vietnamese diaspora is seeing many become believers. These converts then bring the gospel back to Vietnam with them. There is even a fast-growing missionary vision spreading among the churches of Vietnam! Pray for the Holy Spirit to keep fanning these flames of spiritual passion, all for the maturation of the Vietnamese church and so that Jesus might be known through the entire nation.

MAY

15

Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, South Africa

The youth in the new church regularly reach out to people in the area by giving out clothes and preaching the good news to the lost. Please pray for God to empower them to be the hands, mouth, and feet of Jesus Christ. There are a lot of challenges in the community, such as drug abuse, alcohol addiction, separated families, crime, and young people who are already starting their families. Pray for these lost souls to be hungry for the Word of God and for their spiritual eyes to be opened as they are exposed to the love of God.

Wallis and Futuna Islands (Pacific). Population: 11,194 Believers: 1.0%. More Wallisian and Futunans live in New Caledonia than live in their own home islands. Seeking work, many find themselves caught in a spiral of substance abuse instead. Pray for those in New Caledonia to find freedom in Christ and to, in turn, bring blessing back to their homeland. **American Samoa (Pacific).** Population: 46,029 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.

MAY

16

Parkside Church Westside, United States

As Parkside Church Westside continues to love and serve their neighbors in Lakewood, pray for them to boldly proclaim Christ in the daily mission fields into which the Lord has placed them. Pray for Westside members who are forming relationships with refugees in the Cleveland area through the ministry Building Hope in the City. Continue to pray for the Cleveland Pregnancy Center as they provide help to moms in need. Pray also for International Friendships as they care for students living far from home this semester. Pray for a church family abroad who is working with a minority language group to advance the gospel in all languages. Continue to pray for the health and safety of Nathanael Wiles as he raises funds to return to Tenwek Hospital with World Gospel Mission. Pray for the safety of Ryan and Samantha S. as they share the gospel with Somolian refugees in Kenya.

Yeman (Asia). Population: 41,773,878 Believers: <0.1%. Amidst the terrible suffering, Yemenis are finding life in Christ through radio, Bible distribution, careful witness, and dreams and visions from the Lord! Believers meet secretly and only in small groups. They often face dangerous opposition. Praise God for these followers of Jesus. Pray for them as they learn how to honor their culture and family while faithfully serving the Lord.

MAY

17

Equipping Servants International (ESI), Africa, Europe, and the Americas




Pray that the 3,000 ESI participants in 250 groups in 37 countries will grow in their love for God as they study his Scriptures weekly. Pray that these men and women will experience gospel transformation in their lives, relationships, and local churches. Pray for the four groups of African pastors meeting weekly in ESI groups in London and for the five ESI groups meeting in Paris. Praise God for the impact that Alistair Begg's book *Name Above All Names* is having in the lives of ESI pastors all around Latin America. Truth For Life generously donated hundreds of copies of the book to share with pastors at their ESI annual conferences across Latin America.

Zambia (Africa). Population: 21,913,874 Believers: 25.7%. Zambians widely accept Christianity, even in public institutions and the media. Former president Chiluba declared Zambia a Christian nation in 1991, and Zambians practice freedom of all religions. But national transformation along biblical lines still has not come. Too few know the Word of God, or how to live a Christian life. Pray for Christians to live pure and holy lives that depend on God alone for spiritual power and blessing. Pray that Zambia will truly be a nation that honors God.

The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth



Our Focus in Global Missions

-  Parkside Missionaries
-  Ministry Partner (13 states in N. India)
-  Equipping Servants International Locations





AN UPDATE FROM B & J

*Parkside Missionaries
serving in central Asia*

We live in diverse and beautiful central Asia. Our goal here is to be disciples who make disciples. We want to see healthy multiplying churches among the peoples here and in the surrounding nations. Seemingly unknown and forgotten, our country and city are in fact a crossroads of many peoples and nations.

We are part of a local Uyghur church. In addition to learning Russian (a lingua franca of the area), we are also learning Uyghur, a language spoken by over 15 million people. B is serving through preaching. Being able to share about Jesus this way has been challenging and exciting for him.

We are grateful for our team, which is also made up of many nations. It's not something we tried to do, but it's something God is doing. On our team and in our church there are many who are passionate to serve the Lord and proclaim the good news, such as Alex, Sasha, Oscar, Arman, Anwar, and Baktiar.

Please pray that God will raise up these workers and further enable them to be disciples who make disciples, especially in preaching, teaching, and sharing. There is a need for pastoral leaders, a need for training, and finances. We want to encourage and train others to fulfill God's calling.

Life here has unique complexities. Our team has been developing a local business in fitness, tourism, and education and we have soccer and football coaches, crossfit trainers, and teachers who are working in various places. Some of these contexts allow for discipleship and evangelism. We are looking for a facility which will offer classrooms, a workout area, and sports fields.

Pray that if this is God's will, he will make it clear and provide the location and the funds. B would also like to take more people into the mountains and canyons for evangelism and discipleship.

Pray for the finances needed to purchase adequate vehicles for excursions.

Our team regularly offers people an opportunity to serve and experience life overseas. There is a Christian international school, grades K-12, which relies on volunteers.

Pray for Ruth, a young college graduate who is coming this summer to serve with us here.

Pray that God will continue to raise up workers and open doors here for the good news.

And he said to them,
"GO INTO ALL THE WORLD
and proclaim the gospel
to the whole creation."

~MARK 16:15 (ESV)

MAY

18

Fieldstone Counseling, United States

Please pray for continued support and wisdom for Fieldstone as they work toward expanding their ministry into Columbus, OH, and Ann Arbor, MI. Continue to pray for all their counselors, who are actively caring for counselees and offering lasting hope for life's hardships. They have immediate openings for counseling. Pray that those in need of their help will connect with them.

Zimbabwe (Africa). Population: 16,950,795 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.

MAY

19

E & J, North Africa

Please pray for the business venture that their team is pursuing to establish a long-term legitimate presence in their country. They will begin to export products made with 100% dates from their home in North Africa. The first shipment of product was scheduled to arrive at the port last month. Pray that things will go smoothly as they start the business.

Afghanistan (Asia). Population: 43,844,112 Believers: <0.05%. The church in Afghanistan remains almost entirely underground. Pray for Afghan believers. They can never meet publicly, and even their secret meetings must change times and locations to prevent detection. Pray for protection of these precious believers, and for the clarity and consistency of their witness. Women are once again all but banned from participating in public life. Pray for justice and freedom from gender-based oppression, and especially that women might find the true freedom that comes only through Christ.

MAY

20

Wes & Nancy Collins, Guatemala, United States

Please continue to pray for the widespread use of the Scriptures in the Mam areas of Guatemala and other areas where Mam is spoken. They appreciate prayers for help with Wes's memory issues and overall needs due to his Parkinson's Disease. Pray for Nancy as she cares for him.

Albania (Europe). Population: 2,771,508 Believers: 0.5%. Thank God for his work in this land! For a long time, it was closed to the gospel, but evangelicals grew from nearly zero to several thousand in just a few years. The church has indigenous leadership, nationwide networks, a vision for discipleship and evangelism, and it sends out workers to other lands! And all this came about during a politically and economically unstable time. Many believe that years of devoted prayer for Albania opened the way for ministry here.

MAY

21

Mike & Joan Ross, Mexico, United States

Pray for wisdom regarding the future of the MAF work in Mexico and for the best use of the tools God has provided to reach the lost. Praise God for the Parkside dental team and their hard work in La Mesilla. *The Jesus Film* was shown in the local language while patients and their families waited for attention. About 300 patients were served by the team. Pray that God's Word and the loving care received will cause many to turn to Jesus. Pray for Pedro and Roberto as they follow up with people in La Mesilla. Pray that God will bless the work of MAF around the world and bring much spiritual fruit for his kingdom.

Algeria (Africa). Population: 47,436,312 Believers: 0.2%. The growth of the Algerian church over the past decade is an answer to prayer! Many years of hard work by missionaries and praying people produced beautiful fruit. Persecution of Christians is intensifying as a reaction to unprecedented church growth; the future of the church in Algeria hangs in the balance. Pray that they will respond to these pressures with faith and perseverance.

MAY

22

Church Plant Training Ministry in Asia

Pray for their ongoing student recruitment for the one-year course in Expository Preaching and Practical Theology. Pray for the students of the one-year course, who will graduate in May, to remain faithful to the Lord. Pray for the upcoming Summer Bible Camp. Pray that the targets set for this year will be achieved with the help of the Lord. Pray for their networking and partnering with local churches and leaders.

Principality of Andorra (Europe). Population: 82,905 Believers: 0.4%. Materialism holds Andorra in a tight grip. Formerly a smugglers' refuge, Andorra now attracts well-heeled tourists, financiers, and those taking advantage of duty-free goods. Pray that empty materialism would be seen as the ultimately unfulfilling falsehood that it is. Pray for the witness of the handful of churches in this land.

Anguilla (Caribbean). Population: 14,728 Believers: 17.2%. Pray that this small island and its churches may not be bypassed by the Holy Spirit. Pray that religious traditions might be infused with real spiritual life. Pray that Christ's followers may function effectively as a united body.

MAY

23

Ruth (& Artis) Powell, United States, Zambia

Ruth and her helpers are thankful to God for the 118 boys and girls, K-5th grade, who were part of the Bible Clubs in Cleveland this school year. One little girl asked how she could live forever.

They explained how Christ died on the cross to give us everlasting life. She then asked if she could ask God to forgive her sins and help her to live forever. She prayed and then four others prayed also. Pray for spiritual growth for each of these children. Please pray for the children in all the Bible Clubs, which end this month.

Angola (Africa). Population: 39,040,039 Believers: 22.5%. Biblical Christianity grew, even amidst war and poverty! The first president, a Marxist, vowed to eradicate Christianity in 20 years. He failed! The number of evangelicals grew four times larger from 1990 to 2010, and it continues to grow today. The church needs much prayer to overcome the wounds of past conflict. Pray for forgiveness and love in action. Only a few congregations have trained pastors. Pray for Christian unity, holy living, and biblical faith.

MAY

24

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

Please pray that the Lord will continue to lead the IBM church plant as they complete the final stages of the church renovation. Praise the Lord for his faithfulness and abundant provision and pray the IBM church will be a beacon of light drawing the lost to Jesus, the light of the world.

Antigua and Barbuda (Caribbean). Population: 94,816 Believers: 19.9%. Antiguanans 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. **Aruba (Caribbean).** Population: 106,177 Believers: 7.6%. The evangelical presence has grown, predominantly due to the more recent arrivals. Large numbers have immigrated from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia, but evangelical growth is not even. There are several English-speaking churches and many congregations using Papiamentu. Pray for a greater impact on the Asian immigrant population.

MAY

25

Parkside Kent, United States

Updates continue in the new Parkside Kent building. Pray that these changes finish on time and under budget. They anticipate entering the building this summer. Pray that they will do so with gratitude for all that the Lord has done. Pray that Christ will be proclaimed and the gospel spread as they continue to build foundations in Kent.

Argentina (Latin America). Population: 46,057,866 Believers: 9.1%. Evangelical Christians grew from less than 1 million in 1980 to possibly over 4.5 million by 2020. Renewal, evangelism, and prayer touched the nation. Argentinean evangelists, teachers, and missionaries touched the world! Godly, united leadership is necessary for the future. Pray for students in the hundreds of seminaries, Bible schools, and programs.

MAY

26

Kep & Debbie James, Africa, Europe, and the Americas

In March, 45 Italian pastors attended the ESI Facilitator Training in Florence. Two ESI groups have begun and many report that their study of Romans is helping them to grow in grace and experience gospel transformation. Continue to pray for Boris and Marco as they lead ESI groups of Spanish speaking pastors in Virginia and South Florida and for Jose who is leading ESI groups of Spanish speaking pastors in Los Angeles. Pray that each Italian and Spanish speaking participant will grow in their understanding of the gospel and their love for Jesus and that they will live true to the gospel as they teach and preach God's Word faithfully in their local churches.

Armenia (Asia). Population: 2,777,979 Believers: 8.7%. Armenia was the world's first Christian nation, with a Christian legacy of more than 1,700 years. Praise God for the survival of the Armenian church through the centuries, despite frequent and harsh oppression. Pray that Armenian Christians might become a source of light and blessing to the region.

MAY

27

Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

With soccer camps planned from coast to coast this summer, pray the Lord will continue to link churches to their communities to present the gospel to young families. Last summer, over 150 college-aged men and women representing 20 countries took part in these camps and then returned to their colleges and/or countries to continue Bible studies and other ministries. Pray for God's blessing on all involved and on the details needed to support this ministry here and abroad.

Australia (Pacific). Population: 26,699,482 Believers: 14.4%. The church in Australia faces a mighty challenge. The strong influence of Christianity declined as the country became more diverse in religions and became more secular in its public life and laws. Many Australians see the church as intolerant, abusive of its power, and anti-progressive in its values. Pray for revival in the church that will affect every area of Australian society.

MAY

28

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

When the Harringtons return to Japan in June, Chris will begin a new position as the Area Director for Japan with SEND International.

This new assignment has influenced their decision to move from rural Japan, where they have served for ten years, to Tokyo, one of the biggest cities in the world. Pray for all the details this move entails as well as for their Japanese ministry partners in Tohoku as they continue the ministry there. Pray for Chris as he assumes his new position, which will involve caring for missionaries and networking with Japanese pastors.

Austria (Europe). Population: 8,977,139 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.

MAY

29

Scranton Road Bible Church, United States

Praise the Lord for a great Easter celebration! Pray for those who are preparing to be baptized in the early summer. Please pray for the SRBC leadership as they start a new cohort to raise up a group of men to become elders. Pray for their Ambassadors Soccer camp outreach this summer as well as for their Scranton Road Summer Camp ministry. Pray that as their staff begins to plan through the next fiscal year, their plans will be faithful and honoring to Jesus and that the gospel will be proclaimed in everything that they do.

Azerbaijan (Asia). Population 10,462,904 Believers: 0.2%. God raised up an Azeri church, even amidst trials! Only 40 known Azeri believers lived in the country in 1991. Now there may possibly be as many as 10,000, with the majority in Baku. Even more ethnic Azeris follow Christ inside of Iran. Even so, most Christians in Azerbaijan are primarily of foreign ethnicities (Armenian, Russian, Georgian, others). Pray for good fellowship among all the believers.

MAY

30

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

Praise God and pray for their Christian community who are loving and helping one another. Pray that God will raise up many there who are willing to serve, especially in preaching, teaching, and sharing the good news. Pray for Ruth and for the other interns and short-term teams coming this summer to learn and serve with them.

The Bahamas (Caribbean). Population: 415,223 Believers: 35.9%.

Christian commitment is low and nominalism widespread, despite nearly all Bahamians claiming to be Christian. Most households own a Bible; few actively read it. Pray for revival and for a missionary vision among believers.

Bahrain (Asia). Population: 1,498,712 Believers: 2.9%. Bahrain enjoys greater freedoms than almost all Gulf countries and therefore is spiritually strategic. Praise God for the local believers! Some worship with the various established churches, and others gather in more informal networks. Pray especially for unity and cooperation among these groups, as a testimony to their fellow Arabs.

MAY

31

Shoreline Church, United States

Shoreline is grateful for the chance to offer mini camps for families with young children in the church body and in the local community this summer. Pray for gospel impact on the families and volunteers who participate in the Baking Camp, the Brick Building Camp, and the Fishing Camp. Pray also for volunteers to help with the annual Ambassadors Soccer Camp that Shoreline hosts in July. Youth For Christ has launched a new Campus Life program in Berkshire Schools. Praise the Lord that they recently had three students make first-time decisions to follow Christ and five students recommitted their lives to Christ. Pray that the Lord will continue to use this new outreach!

Bangladesh (Asia). Population: 174,701,211 Believers: 0.4%. Pray for leadership for the churches. Earlier movements brought thousands of people into the church. But the lack of trained, godly leadership eventually left many believers with weak and shallow faith. Poverty limits the number of full-time ministers and theological students, but churches also lack spiritually mature lay leaders. In Bangladesh, as in any nation, robust discipleship processes would go a long way to solving these challenges.

Global prayer requests were taken or adapted from Operation World, 7th Edition (2010), Pray for the World (2015), and www.operationworld.org. Both books are published by InterVarsity Press. All rights reserved.

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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

North Africa	E & J
Japan	Chris & Leanne Harrington
Uruguay	Andrew & Angie James
Africa/Latin America/United States	Kep & Debbie James
Central Asia	Bobby & Julie

Partial Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

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

Financial Support of Nationals

- Bolivia & Around the World**

 - Twenty 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 had 3,350 graduates since 2002, and has 3,000 active participants in 250 groups, meeting in 37 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Ecuador, England, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, Uganda, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Parkside Church has assisted and continues to assist in providing participants with the required materials.
- Mexico**

 - Two Mexican pastors, 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.
- South Asia**

 - Twenty full-time church planting missionaries were trained and sent out, fully supported by Parkside Church.
 - Twelve 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 students in the farm schools, local church, and university in Bloemfontein, receives full financial support from Parkside Church.

Financial Support to Mission Partners and Local Churches

Fieldstone Counseling	Parkside Church Westside
Hope for Glasgow	Parkside Green
Human Coalition Cleveland	Parkside Heights Church
The City Mission	Parkside Kent
The Edge Sports & Arts Academy	Scranton Road Bible Church
Truth For Life	Shoreline Church

Financial Support to Mission Individuals

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson	Jon (& Ruthie)
Matt (& Laura) Pheneger	Ruth (& Artis) Powell
Goran (& Beth) Tomic	

Parkside Church funding of Missions in 2023: \$3,543,635

Get Involved

in a short-term missions trip

South Africa Trip

Vacation Bible Camp

Trip Dates: July 10-20, 2025

To find out more about joining a future short-term team,
please contact the church office at 440.543.1212
or visit parksidechurch.com/missions.



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.