

January 23 Prayer Prompters for Missionaries

I have heard from nearly all our missionaries since the last Prayer Prompter. I hope this information encourages you and helps you pray. I use large print so it is easier for you prayer warriors to read. But it does take up more pages if you print it out.

Stephanie Alderman –Togo, Africa. Church planter working with women and children ministries. Here is the Converge link to the work Stephanie is focusing on: <https://converge.org/project/africa/6-degree-initiative/togo-church-planting>
You may remember that voodoo is heavily practiced in Togo. Stephanie works the 6 Degree Initiative including Togo, Benin, and West Africa. **The Church she serves has a goal of reaching 100,000 converts from Togo and Benin.** Click on the link above to learn more about the 6 Degree Initiative.

Bob and Barb Bartz –Now live in Florida. Bob still works under the umbrella of Far East Radio Broadcasting but is on loan to an organization he refers to as OM East (Operation Mobilization). In the coming year as Media Strategist with MediaWorks, I will continue consulting with ministry teams who are using today's digital media to identify and invite seekers to consider Jesus. As the number of teams we serve grows, we need to add more strategists to share the load. As we continue this journey, please remember the following prayer concerns in the coming months:

*Pray for my ongoing interactions with ministry teams we contact and assist to help with media strategy. This is often an involved relational process requiring multiple discussions before the approach becomes clear. We also encourage teams to apply the digital services MediaWorks offers to their ministry.

*Pray for the ongoing financial support challenges that we face here in the US. Ask God to guide those He calls to stand with us so that we might finish well and empower the coming generations to lead others to Jesus through the opportunities available in today's digital media.

For more info: rbartz@febc.org

Asian Missionaries – Converge missionaries sharing the Gospel with Hui Musl*m group living in the same country. This couple has been spending time in "Prayer Walks" through the territory they live and work in. They are praying that God opens the eyes of their hearts to see the deep Love the Father has for the HAT people. We thank God too that, with His help, in the 9 months since we returned to the country, we were able to not only deepen our relationships with our existing *Hat* friends, but excitingly also extend our oikos of new *Hat* contacts. hospital with *Hat* patients and their family members. Pray that this possibility would become reality soon. Something to also give thanks for is that, despite stringent COVID policy

restrictions, we were able to make a 4-hour drive to a major M*sl*m spiritual stronghold in the southwest region where the second largest m*sq*e in the country is located. Many *Hat* parents would send their sons and daughters here for 3 to 4 years of Islamic studies. *Imans* trained here are sent throughout the province to different m*sq*es. The two couples above went with us on this prayer journey. Do pray that what we bind and loose in the spiritual realm would come to pass; and that workers would be called and sent there. Finally, we give thanks that with your persevering in prayer with us, we were able to return to this country earlier this year to serve amongst the *Hat* people-group. Very quickly, the time has come for us to submit our applications to renew our visas. This is to be done on a yearly basis and it takes a month for the applications to be processed. We do not want to take for granted that our visas will be extended as we personally know of two families who have had their applications rejected.

For more info: <https://converge.org/missionary/mao-phoenix>

Juan and Elena Felipe – Minnesota / Iowa Conference Baptist Missionaries serving in Pelican Rapids and Park Rapids. Juan is a Pastor and an evangelist to Spanish speakers living in our region. Pastor Felipe is focused upon his “Call” from the Lord when he moved to Pelican Rapids and that is to reach out to Latinos with the Gospel. There is encouragement at both Pelican Rapids church and Park Rapids church for the growth in spiritual maturity within the congregations. Pastor Felipe thanks CrossRoads for our financial support of his ministry and is grateful. For more info: <https://converge.org/north-central/giving-campaign/juan-felipe>

Todd and Karen Indehar – Converge Missionaries evangelizing and church planting in Thailand. You may recall that the church plant area in Bangkok is in the inner-city slums. Pastor, Evangelist Todd feels lead by God to move to the Northern part of Thailand to a small town to reach out to an Unreached, Untargeted People Group. UUPG. Exploratory visits to a people group had been completed before they left on home assignment. Now that the Indehars have returned to Thailand, they feel lead by God to move North. In late October this move took place. In Fak Tha district of Uttaradit province, we put on the fourth Kingdom Kids Camp at this location. This time we partnered with a "local" (same district) church. 65 children had a fun time learning more about Jesus through ESL games, Jesus Film clip, ESL drills, and more, including a new course called "Run For The Prize", a long distance running training program. Plus we celebrated Christmas with the children and the pastor of the partnering church explained the true meaning of Christmas. We plan to hold the next one in the village in **Phrae** province in February.

We are in need of support. Our move depleted our funds, and so we are making a special plea for end of the year. For more info:

<https://converge.org/missionary/todd-karen-indehar>

David and Carol J. – Converge Asian Director of Missions. He is an Overseer of Missionaries in Asia. I am diligently searching for partnership in ministry among the least-reached people of Asia. I am discovering local workers and building stronger partnerships in Japan, India, China, Thailand, Indonesia, and Philippines. David shared in his September newsletter: We have many unreached people^{li} groups that we seek to engage with in Asia. 14 million Hui in China; 20 different people groups of Sulawesi, Indonesia; the Isan of NE Thailand and Laos; multiple people groups of Assam and Arunachal-Pradesh (NE), India; 120 million people of Japan; 60 million people of Thailand.

Amongst several people groups in NE India we have seen the gospel of Jesus Christ enter significantly over the last number of years. And the result has not only been multiple people becoming Jesus followers, but also “Jesus personnel”.

January 23-28 will be the first All-Asia Gathering of Converge global workers. We will meet in Pattaya, Thailand. Carol and I will participate with many others in leadership roles as we gather with global workers from China, India, Indonesia, Japan and Thailand.

I have a goal of raising \$9,000 through financial partnership. The first \$4,500 of that will be matched through a generous matching gift opportunity. I give thanks to the multiple generous partners who believe passionately in seeing Jesus known amongst the peoples of Asia, who pray for us diligently, and have provided financial gifts for this All-Asia Gathering.

For more info: <https://converge.org/missionary/david-j>

Jim and Lynn Jarman – Converge Missionaries, Nordic Project Leaders, & Church Multiplication Catalysts Serving Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia and Beyond. Based in Stockholm, Sweden. “We have been asked to expand our roles as church multiplication catalysts. Now instead of working with one church network in Sweden, we have been tasked with overseeing and developing partnerships and projects in the five Nordic nations: Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, and Finland. God has been gracious to increase our sphere of service for Him throughout the Nordic Baltic region, including Russia.” “We have been given the opportunity to influence over 100 thousand people from 45 nations on a daily

basis. **Scores have accepted Christ for the very first time.** We are in awe of God's goodness. **Your help is advancing the Gospel.**” God keeps opening doors for us to serve, and we love to walk through them to see what he has on the other side. We now are coaching leaders in seven nations - something that is hard for us to imagine. In the midst of continent-wide conflict and uncertainty, rising national tensions and energy shortages - the gospel is still going forward, churches are still being planted, and people are still finding hope and salvation in Christ. What a time to be alive!

Please pray for us and rejoice with us!

War in Ukraine - PRAY FOR PEACE, COURAGE, HOPE FOR THE FUTURE
Refugees - PRAY FOR ALL THOSE DISPLACED BY THE CONFLICT

Russian Ministry - **PRAY AS WE FIND NEW WAYS TO MINISTER**

Protection and Health - **PRAY**

Our Work with the Catalyst Training Program - **PRAISE**

Our Work in the Nordic Baltic Nations, Russia with M4 - **PRAY**

People Accepting Christ via Social Media - **HUGE PRAISE**

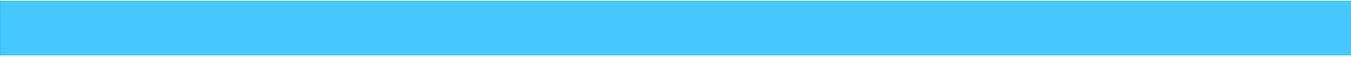
Monthly Support Needed - **PRAY**

For more info: <https://converge.org/missionary/jim-lynn-jarman>

Mike and Samya Johnson – Converge Missionaries to Muls*ms under Call of Love Ministries based in Ohio. Call of Love Ministries uses secure social media to reach Muls*ms.

Many Muslims are coming to know Christ as their Savior every week. You are a part of their story! Our global online church is growing and our TV programs are drawing new viewers who seek the truth. So many lives are changing, and it's because of your support and prayers.

Because of your amazing support, we reached the \$300K goal for our building fund in 2022! Our building initiative is in the next phase now, which means we have more time to focus on our major ministry ventures which involve producing new evangelistic Arabic TV programs, growing our online Arabic church, empowering the persecuted church in Islamic countries in practical ways, and much more!



Kryukov Sister Church in the Ukraine. Pastor Oleg is the Pastor of this church and an evangelist at heart. I have sent several letters out to you that I have received from Pastor Oleg since the war began. Here is a portion of his Christmas Greeting letter to CrossRoads Church:

“Christmas brought peace to the earth. During all the 2022 year, we proclaimed this peace. Even when missiles flied and buildings were destroying, peace in Jesus Christ was reality for us. Unfortunately, some friends and close ones leaved us, but the Lord did not leave Ukraine.
Mt.28:20and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

In this difficult year, brothers and sisters of CrossRoads Church were with us. From the first day of war we listened your prayers and saw your help. The Lord taught us to look at the heaven and wait for help in difficult days. He is never late. Glory and gratitude to God who does not lay in a manger more but sit at the throne.

The Lord opened for us His springs through material and spiritual service of your church. At the beginning of the year, we could not imagine how many wonders God would done in our service. For today, God changed most of refugees that came to Kremenchug. When we gather every week, product packages not always enough for everyone, and people joyfully go home, giving their bag to those who poorer then

they. There are refugees that bring products to church and share them with us. This is a wonder. Those who used to fight for bread and warm bed, today they care about others.

Message about Christ for 9 month changed thousands of destinies. Ukraine is really becoming a Christian country that learn to love Jesus Christ.

Today was one more missile attack. We prayed and gathered at church to serve people in need and prepare food packages for them. We have heard explosion, but it was even louder the voice of God's love.

Ellie Lundquist – Missionary working with the deaf population in Brazil. Ellie works with a Baptist Organization called **World Venture**. Here is some news from Ellie:

Here

I have always loved how Advent prepares us for Christmas and have wanted to produce a resource for the Deaf community for Advent. I had the opportunity to interpret and record the Advent devotional series *Good News of Great Joy* by John Piper in collaboration with Desiring God and Fiel Ministry. Fiel already had translated the devotions and created an audio version in Portuguese that had been released in 2017.

I recorded the 25 devotions for the Advent season in a recording studio in the Fiel building. For this project I also worked with the marketing team at Fiel to create some short videos in Brazilian sign language advertising the devotionals and inviting them to register to receive the devotional videos via email daily We have received overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding these videos and many requests for other resources.

I have also begun recording the daily devotion series *Solid Joys* by John Piper. I have recorded the first 3 months in preparation for

next year and look forward to continuing recording in the upcoming weeks and months. This project is also in collaboration with Fiel Ministry and I have discussed a few other potential projects with them as well!

Thank you so much for your prayers and your support.

Bill Ankerberg, Director. Converge ministry focusing on the Nordic Baltic region. Several years ago we were told the Nordic countries and the Baltic countries were some of the spiritually darkest places in the world. The Nordic countries have just moved on without God. Their hearts seem to have hardened. The Baltic countries were former Soviet Union countries where belief in God was strongly discouraged by the government. People got used to life without God and few have interest in spiritual things today. The money CrossRoads sends to Converge goes toward the Nordic Baltic Initiative. It is used to provide training opportunities and retreats for ministry leaders and pastors. Bill is a retired pastor and does not draw a salary.

News from Bill at the end of last year:
Greetings Doug,

As one of my best supporting churches I wanted to give you a heads up on a change happening next year.

I gave Converge my notice in June that I wanted to end my Initiative leadership but continue as a missionary so that I could have more time to focus on Estonia and Stockholm. These have been my most fruitful areas, and I will now be freed from all the paperwork and required leadership meetings to do what I want to do. I asked Jimmy if he would take over, and I'm very happy that this is going forward. For the next couple of years I will be introducing him to national leaders and trying to make a smooth transition for Converge in the region. He is already fully funded and has been working with churches in America for several years. We hope he will be able to help us grow our missionary numbers in the region.

What will I be doing in Estonia and Sweden? Everything I've been doing will continue and I hope it will grow and develop to reach one of the spiritually darkest areas of the world. Thanks again for your help. I am planning to come to Fergus Falls in May, and look forward to being with you for a few days.

For more info: <https://converge.org/missionary/william-ankerberg>

Doug Hansen, Mission Council CrossRoads Church
