

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

September 2020

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1st JAPAN *Zech 2-3*

The JLBC pastors and elders are meeting via Zoom today in place of their usual September overnight retreat. Pray for encouragement as they meet online for an hour and a half status update and a time of praise and prayer.

2nd FRANCE *Zech 4*

Due to a motorcycle accident in late July, **Matt** had surgery to repair fractured and dislocated vertebrae. Surgery reportedly went well; please pray for a strong recovery for Matt, and for God's peace for the whole family.

3rd TAIWAN *Zech 5*

Pastor Hsiao En (Daniel) & his wife **Hsin Yun (Nancy)**, future missionaries to Chad from the LB church in Taiwan have not yet been able to secure visas for French language study in France. Pray for God's direction as they process their options with LBIM.

4th N. AMERICA *Zech 6*

Pray for **Sallee** and daughters as they prepare for fall schooling. Pray for them as they have been separated from **Jeremy** for nearly 6 months because of his inability to leave Chad due to COVID.

5th WORLD *Zech 7*

Pray for patience, wisdom and discernment for thousands of

displaced missionaries who are waiting for international travel restrictions to be lifted so they can return to their places of work and cross-cultural ministry.

6th TAIWAN *Zech 8*

Victory English Fellowship services start back up today. Pray that there are enough volunteers (musicians, sound, ushers, teachers, etc.) to allow for them to resume their two worship services.

7th N. AMERICA *Zech 9*

Pray for a positive start to the 2020-2021 academic year as **Joel** resumes online teaching for university students based in East Asia. His courses include essay writing, American culture and English literature.

8th CHAD *Zech 10*

Dave and **Sonja** have been unable to leave their village since April due to COVID restrictions. Now, road conditions in the rainy season prevent any trips out for supplies and rest until October. Pray for perseverance and fruitful ministry in the meantime.

9th N. AMERICA *Zech 11*

Pray for **Heidi Jensen** as she conducts online English Bible discussion classes for former and current diplomats and staff at the

United Nations. Pray for God's Word to work faith in her students.

10th FRANCE *Zech 12*

Pray for **Matt** and **Christina** and their family, for their daily tasks and studies as Matt recovers from his surgery. Happy 12th birthday to **Verity!**

11th JAPAN *Zech 13*

Pray for continued healing for **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** as Dean recovers from a stroke (4/28). While his mind and speech are fine, and he can drive again, pray for strengthening of muscles in his right leg, arm and hand. Pray for patience and determination in his daily rehabilitation exercises.

12th N. AMERICA *Zech 14*

Pray for **Paul** and **Teresa** as they seek to return to Chad. Pray that all the details with Chadian government can come together. Happy 17th birthday **Micah Szobody**, who will remain in Minnesota for his senior year at Hillcrest.

13th TAIWAN *Mal 1*

Please pray for **Wei Ma Ma**. She attends the Victory Hakka Fellowship with her son and wants to be baptized. Pray that her other children won't oppose her decision and will attend the service.

14th CHAD *Mal 2*

Nathanael asks for prayer for their Bible translation helpers, that the Word they are analyzing and rendering in their heart language would find an eternal home there. Happy 4th birthday **Talitha!**

15th ASIA *Mal 3-4*

Pray for believers in East Asia, Taiwan, and Japan as they witness to family members who are not Christians but are instead steeped in ancestor worship and rituals. Pray for peace among the believers and for opportunity and boldness to share the gospel with their families.

16th TAIWAN *Psalms 126-128*

Continue to pray for **Ben** and **Sara Hosch** as they continue in language study and build relationships with neighbors and church friends. Pray for their children as they return to school.

17th CHAD *Psalms 129-131*

Pray for **Jeremy** as he manages the Lutheran Welcome Center. Pray for good health for the employees. Pray for Jeremy and his family as they are separated during the pandemic. (See 9/4).

18th JAPAN *2 Cor 1*

As Japan wrestles with a 2nd wave of the Coronavirus, pray for protection and creative ministry ideas at House of Hope and for all the JLBC churches. Pray for God's special encouragement as people feel more and more isolated.

19th CHAD *2 Cor 2*

Pray for the four teachers and chaplain at the mission school as they prepare for the school year, that their hearts would be equipped for ministry.

20th N. AMERICA *2 Cor 3*

Pray that **Joel** and **Liz** can find suitable short-term housing in the Minneapolis area as they wait for their host country in Asia to reopen to US citizens. May this be a fruitful time of enjoying and

ministering to their extended family in the US.

21st TAIWAN 2 Cor 4

Mike and Delores Kittelson write, "Recently up in Yu tien Village, **Lu Cai-lan** expressed the desire to believe in Jesus. Pray that she will continue to progress to deeper and clearer faith."

22nd CHAD 2 Cor 5

Chadian LB missionary **Abel** is assisting 12 farming cooperative groups near one of our mission villages in agricultural development. Pray that through these interactions he will boldly share the gospel, and that faith in Jesus will grow in the hearts and minds of his listeners.

23rd JAPAN 2 Cor 6

Pray for the three seminary students as they respond to God's call for the ministry of His Word. Pray for mutual support and encouragement in their studies.

24th CHAD 2 Cor 7

Pray for the installation of an airstrip near their village, so that **Nathanael** and **Carrie** and family can evacuate if needed during the rainy season when road travel is impossible. Bureaucracy and corruption seem to be holding things up. Pray for paper work and authorizations to be approved soon. Happy birthday **Nathanael**.

25th N. AMERICA 2 Cor 8

Pray for those in N. America who are sensing God's call to serve in international mission. Pray for clarity in that sense of call, and for supporters to come alongside them.

26th TAIWAN 2 Cor 9

Tomorrow Victory Hakka Fellowship will gather for the Mid-Autumn festival. Pray that family and friends who attend will see God's love and want to learn more about Jesus.

27th CHAD 2 Cor 10

Pray for the Chadian missionary partners that they would be encouraged and emboldened for the sake of the gospel. Pray for those showing interest in the gospel, that they would be granted repentance and faith and be filled with the Spirit to grow in faith and witness.

28th NIGERIA 2 Cor 11

Nigeria has a predominantly non-Christian north and Christian south. Believers in the north are suffering severe persecution, and yet, non-believers are being drawn to Jesus, and the Church is growing. Pray that the Church will be well-grounded in God's Word and stand firm against all threats, both from within and from without.

29th TAIWAN 2 Cor 12

Pray for **Ethan & Sandy Christofferson** who have just returned from the US and finished their 2 weeks of quarantine. Pray that they will have many opportunities to minister the gospel among friends and neighbors.

30th CHAD 2 Cor 13

The Chadian CLB is struggling with the impact of COVID-19 on fellowship, finances and growth. They request prayer for their members and for guidance in terms of church reopenings. Pray for wisdom for governing officials and church leaders.

LBIM: A Heritage and A Hope

The Church of the Lutheran Brethren has always been a Church compelled by the love of Christ to share the gospel; a Church called to make disciples of all nations. This is evidenced through our heritage of mission. When the CLB was founded in December of 1900, the then small fledgling synod of only five congregations committed immediately to send missionaries to China. A



short time later, Reinholt and Juline Kilen were on a boat to China. More missionaries followed, not only to China, but to Chad, Cameroon, Japan, and Taiwan. To say that these pioneer missionaries experienced hardship is an understatement. Some were martyred. Some died of tropical illness or accident. Some were held as hostages and

threatened with execution. They persevered through pandemics, the Great Depression, two World Wars, spiritual and physical attack, loneliness, burnout, depression, and other hardships. Was it worth it?

Yes! As a result, the Church of the Lutheran Brethren is now a diverse yet unified body of believers hailing from all these corners of the globe. This heritage is a testimony of a faithful missionary God working through faithful missionary people. Praise God!

Yet there is a task remaining. And yes, there are still risks and dangers to sending missionaries internationally. We take risk management seriously. But our mission remains driven by the conviction that peoples and places that do not have access to the gospel in their cultural and linguistic context are worth the risk and effort it takes to bring the Word to them. As Romans 10:14a points out: *“How, then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?”*

And so, the CLB continues to be a Church compelled by the Great Commissioner, Jesus Christ himself, who called us to *“go and make disciples of all nations...”* (Matt. 28:19). He told us: *“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field”* (Luke 10:2).

The harvest is still plentiful. There are billions of people in the world who remain without access to the gospel message. **And the workers are still few.** Only 1 out of 10 cross-cultural missionaries are engaging the unreached peoples of the world. But that is our mission. So we are asking the Lord of the Harvest for more workers...

What about you? We are praying for more missionaries for both our African and Asian fields. For *“...how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent?”* (Romans 10:14b, 15a) Will you go? Will you send?

Want to talk? Call Dan Venberg at 218-739-3336, Monday thru Friday!