

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

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1st N. AMERICA *Gen 1*

Jeremy and **Sallee** ask for prayer that airports and countries remain open so they can return to Chad this month. Pray for them as they consider how best to operate the Welcome Center under COVID guidelines.

2nd TAIWAN *Gen 2*

Delores Kittelson writes, "We are thankful that the members of Victory Hakka Fellowship and Baushan Victory are actively sharing their faith with those that are not yet believers. Pray for many opportunities to give a testimony." Happy Birthday to **Mike**.

3rd N. AMERICA *Gen 3*

Pray for **Matt** and **Christina** and children as they adjust back to life in the US, and especially pray for good physical therapy for Matt.

4th CHAD *Gen 4*

Pray for the Mayo Kebbi region in southern Chad where strained resources feed violent ethnic conflict between Hausa herdsman and Moussey farmers. Pray for the Chadian LB churches in the area as they take in people seeking refuge.

5th JAPAN *Gen 5*

Dean and **Linda Bengtson** ask prayer as they seek new ways to bring God's Word to friends and

neighbors in a time of COVID restrictions. Pray that God will draw people to Christ through the Christmas books, tracts and music CDs that they gave out last month.

6th TAIWAN *Gen 6*

John Olson asks for prayer for Pastor **Tom Curry** and his wife **Rhonda**, who have arrived to start their ministry at Victory English Fellowship. Pray for their adjustments to life in Taiwan.

7th FRANCE *Gen 7*

Matt asks prayer for his Muslim friend **Ahmed**, who he met at the rehab hospital in France. Ahmed is disappointed with his progress and the care he's received. His dad is working on getting him moved to another clinic. Pray also for Ahmed's girlfriend, **Justine**.

8th N. AMERICA *Gen 8*

Pray for **Dan Venberg** and his family as they mourn the death of his mother, **Helen Venberg**. Praise God for the life and ministry that **Helen** and her husband, **Rodney** had for many years, in both Africa and America.

9th TAIWAN *Gen 9*

Tomorrow **Mike Kittelson** will be speaking at a Veterans Home in Taiwan. Pray that he will be able to bring encouragement in Jesus' Name to these veterans who have served their nation.

10th N. AMERICA *Gen 10*

David and **Sonja** are now settling into home assignment in MN. Pray for them as they visit churches so they can clearly communicate the mission God has called the CLB to in Chad. Pray for their children's adjustment back to the States for the coming year. Happy Birthday today to **Sonja**.

11th TAIWAN *Gen 11*

Sara Hosch asks: "Please pray especially now for the last two months of my pregnancy as I have hit the super uncomfortable stage, and am feeling exhausted. Praise Jesus that baby boy is doing well, and that he is already so loved."

12th N. AMERICA *Gen 12*

Joel and **Liz** ask prayer for favor from university and civil officials, and for wisdom regarding the logistics of their return to East Asia. They will need new visas before they can return.

13th CHAD *Gen 13*

Paul asks for prayer for the health of the new families who've come to study and train with them. Having come from two different and more southerly regions, they are adjusting to a new microbial environment and a more desert climate with colder nights. Happy Birthday, **Paul**.

14th TAIWAN *Gen 14*

Mrs. Jian recently joined **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson** on a hospital visit to a patient with a serious brain injury (one like her husband experienced). Pray that this kind of alongside time would help her to know God's love for her. Pray for her salvation.

15th N. AMERICA *Gen 15*

Roger and **Sue Olson** (Japanese Ministries, Seattle) are thankful that their online ministry is reaching many Japanese here and in Japan. Five students that Sue befriended through weekly Zoom chats for 10 months are now back in Japan. Pray that God will draw these students to Himself.

16th TAIWAN *Gen 16*

Pastor Hsiao En (Daniel) & his wife **Hsin Yun (Nancy)**, future missionaries to Chad from the LB church in Taiwan, are awaiting visas. Pray for the Lord's guidance as they prepare and that their request be granted. (*see back*)

17th CHAD *Gen 17*

Pray for the Living Water wells that are going in this month, that these wells will bring opportunities to share the gospel!

18th TAIWAN *Gen 18*

Praise God for a Christian friend who is partnering with **Ethan Christofferson** to engage some of his resistant relatives/friends with the gospel. Pray for the Spirit to help them be clear in proclaiming the gospel, and to draw the hearts of those who will hear it.

19th N. AMERICA *Gen 19*

Pray for **Heidi** ministering at the UN. Pray for opportunities to conduct Bible Studies and English classes with diplomats and their families.

20th TAIWAN *Gen 20*

Pray for **Ben** and **Sara Hosch** as they continue in language study and explore where God would have them serve. Happy 10th birthday to **Adelaide!**

21st CHAD *Gen 21*

Nathanael asks prayer for a group of men who are learning to read their tribal language. He says, "Already we've been ending our class by listening to Bible stories, and it is quite a joy."

22nd N. AMERICA *Gen 22*

Liz is grateful that an online Disability Ministries course and discussion group that she helped with was well received in E. Asia. Pray that the 10 participants will be encouraged in developing their own local church-based ministries.

23rd TAIWAN *Gen 23*

Pray for **Liu Chun Mei** who is attending Victory Hakka Fellowship. She has seen God at work in other people's lives through baptism, and is considering what this all means for her.

24th N. AMERICA *Gen 24*

Joel asks for boldness, integrity and discernment as a Christian university professor teaching online students in a country that is officially atheistic. May the Lord open doors for Joel's students to encounter the truth of the gospel.

25th CHAD *Gen 25*

Please pray for **Jean**, wife **Jaqueline** and their **children**. Jean and Jaqueline are graduates of the missionary training school and are now settling into their new mission post to start a ministry to another people group.

26th JAPAN *Gen 26*

Dean and **Linda Bengtson** ask prayer for the monthly Bible studies with Pastor Zeniya at House of Hope. The first one in 2021 is tomorrow. Pray for the Holy Spirit

to open people's hearts to the truth and freedom of the Gospel.

27th N. AMERICA *Gen 27*

Matt asks for prayer regarding the uncertainties that he and **Christina** face after his accident. "How is God using this? Will my strength and dexterity return enough that we will be able to serve in the context we initially set out for? How long before we can go again?"

28th JAPAN *Gen 28*

Dean and **Linda Bengtson** ask prayer for House of Hope ministries in 2021. "We begin the year in the midst of the continuing COVID crisis, but we know that does not limit God's power to work."

29th TAIWAN *Gen 29*

Pray for opportunities for **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson** during the Chinese New Year vacation in February, that they can still connect and evangelize/disciple the youth from their English ministry who have gone away to college.

30th CHAD *Gen 30*

Pray for **Jeremy** and **Sallee** who are back in Chad after a 2-month home assignment. Pray as they re-enter a busy life at the Welcome Center. Pray as they again left their 2 girls in MN to finish school and start college.

31st JAPAN *Gen 31*

Pray for the Japan LB pastors and elders meetings taking place Feb 1-3 online. Pray for wisdom and encouragement, as the church here tries to move forward while navigating COVID.

Called to Chad... from Taiwan!

Revelation 7:9 tells us that on the day the new heavens and the new earth come, people from all nations and languages will worship together before the heavenly throne! This is a vision of the Church unifying because of Christ, and this vision became the beginning of my missionary journey with Nancy.

When I was in college with Nancy, we were attracted to each other because of the burden of missions. After graduation, we got married. We went to Vietnam for three years and were part of an outreach ministry in a Vietnamese church, but we were not fulfilled in this calling. We longed for mission among unreached peoples. We believed that the church in Vietnam was mature enough to continue without us, and we returned to Taiwan to receive more theological equipping.

During the three years in seminary, many students suggested we go to a denomination already sending missionaries, but I did not have peace in my heart. I felt that was a selfish motivation. After a struggle, I chose to follow God's will and return to my mother church, Chubei, of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren of China (CLBC), even if it was not certain that they could send me as a missionary in the future. I believed that God's will is to call the *church* to respond to the Great Commission, not just individuals.

During the next four years of local church ministry, the lead pastor worked with us to evaluate whether we were equipped for cross-cultural mission work. During this time, we learned about LBIM that planted the CLBC in Taiwan and LBIM's work among unreached peoples of Chad. It suddenly became clear that God had prepared a mission field for us and our church. We had never heard of the work in Chad before, even though I was born and raised in the CLBC. In the same year, Radius Asia, the first missions training center taught in Chinese, was officially established in Taiwan. This made my pastor more convinced of God's leadership. When we shared the mission of LBIM in Chad with church elders and deacons, it was unanimously supported by everyone. In the same year, our synod was also preparing to support cross-cultural missions. LBIM's model of planting the Church in Taiwan is now leading us to participate in planting churches among the unreached.

God is working in his Church. We will become the first missionary family supported by our synod and sent collaboratively by CLBC churches during our seventy-year history. God is calling the CLBC to respond to the mission with their mother Church, the CLB of North America, and to walk along with her sister Church in Chad to finish the task. ~ *Daniel*

Prayer requests:

- 1) Our deployment to Chad in February, including visas, flights, packing our whole family
- 2) Our health, both mental and physical
- 3) Our family in Taiwan, that they could trust in him when we are not with them

