

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

March 2021

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1st CHAD *Exod 7*

Nathanael and **Carrie** will host a possible missionary candidate from the US, **Ellie**, who has expressed interest in cross-cultural mission. Pray for the Lord to clarify His will for her through this vision trip.

2nd N. AMERICA *Exod 8*

Joel begins a new semester of undergraduate online courses this month for Asian students in English and American literature, culture and film. Pray for his students to understand God's grace through these courses.

3rd TAIWAN *Exod 9*

Please pray for **Ben** and **Sara Hosch** as they transition to a family of seven. Praise God for the birth of Charlie Simon on Feb. 3rd. Pray for a quick recovery for Sara and much blessing on their new little boy.

4th JAPAN *Exod 10*

Pray for the LB Seminary as they gear up for a new year of school (starting in April). Pray for continuing students and for God to raise up new students to work in ministry in the CLB in Japan.

5th CHAD *Exod 11*

Pray for **Jeremy** and **Sallee**, now back in Chad and managing the Welcome Center. Pray for good health and safety for them and their

employees during the pandemic. Happy 18th birthday to **Abigail** tomorrow in Minnesota, where she attends Hillcrest Lutheran Academy.

6th TAIWAN *Exod 12*

Michael and **Delores Kittelson** will assist the Gospel Church, Miaoli with music at an outdoor evangelistic outreach. Pray for good weather and for opportunities to meet many new people.

7th CHAD *Exod 13*

Construction of the mission school is underway. Pray for safety during construction, and that this place will serve the gospel in the community.

8th TAIWAN *Exod 14*

Pray for **Dr. Samuel Liu** and for all who attend China Lutheran Seminary's annual lay-training seminar. Pray also for wisdom for our missionaries and CLBC synodical leaders as they gather tomorrow to discuss different views on the ordination of women.

9th JAPAN *Exod 15*

March 11 marks 10 years since the earthquake/tsunami and nuclear disaster that devastated northern Japan. **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** will live stream an online Christian memorial concert from 2:00 pm at House of Hope. Pray that many will listen and find hope in Christ.

10th TAIWAN *Exod 16*

Pray for the salvation of **Wen**, who has attended **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson's** small group for more than two years. Pray too for her husband. Praise God that Wen is so faithful at small group meetings. Happy Birthday today to **Ethan**.

11th JAPAN *Exod 17*

Another 3/11 memorial concert will be streamed live on the 13th at House of Hope with **Shizu, Migiwa** and **Misa**, all Christian musicians who visited Ishinomaki regularly until the pandemic. Pray that those who gather at House of Hope or listen at home will hear and receive hope and healing.

12th TAIWAN *Exod 18*

Victory LB Church, Hsinchu and Victory Hakka Fellowship will hold their annual Ancestor Memorial service tomorrow. Pray for those mourning the loss of a loved one, and for those seeking to honor those that have passed away.

13th N. AMERICA *Exod 19*

Pray for the live streaming of Japanese Ministries (Rock of Ages, Seattle). Praise God for how He has used the pandemic to help **Roger** and **Sue Olson** share the Gospel with more people than ever before!

14th CHAD *Exod 20*

March 15-19 **Dan Venberg** is attending and presenting at the Chadian LB synod's annual convention. Pray for fruitful meetings, and for a unified vision in synodical mission focus. Pray for Dan's conversations with pastors and synodical leaders this week.

15th N. AMERICA *Exod 21*

Roger and **Sue Olson** ask prayer for **Mikiko** and **Ise** to come to faith in Jesus. Pray for them to find new ways to reach their Japanese "neighbors" near and far in spite of COVID.

16th TAIWAN *Exod 22*

Pray for **Ben** and **Sara Hosch** as they continue in language study. Pray for their children too as they adjust to a new baby. Pray for a busy month of tasks and traveling around to register a "birth abroad."

17th CHAD *Exod 23*

Paul writes: "after some ethnic tension and prejudices among our student families we have seen some genuine repentance and efforts to keep a spirit of peace and community in order to fulfill the mission of Christ together. This is a real victory for which we praise God. May it continue."

18th N. AMERICA *Exod 24*

Pray for **David** and **Sonja** and their children as they continue their home assignment. Pray for a good schooling environment for the kids. Pray for David and Sonja as they visit churches and other groups to share about their ministries in Chad.

19th TAIWAN *Exod 25*

Church leaders gather this morning in Hsinchu for their twice-yearly business meeting. Pray for wise decisions and that each leader will be encouraged and challenged.

20th CHAD *Exod 26*

Pray the Holy Spirit will continue to work in the hearts of the people in their village while

David and **Sonja** are in the US for home assignment.

21st N. AMERICA *Exod 27*

A high school student that **Joel** and **Liz** have tutored for many years has recently been led to faith in Jesus! Please pray that he might be instrumental in leading his parents and grandmother to Christ.

22nd N. AMERICA *Exod 28*

Matt works hard 4 days a week in therapy. For a spinal cord injury, time can be the best medicine. Pray as they wait to see how extensive Matt's healing will be and what that means for future service in Chad. Happy 8th birthday **Bastian**.

23rd TAIWAN *Exod 29*

Victory LBC sent **Pastor Zhong** with a large group of people to start a new church in the Guanxin district of Hsinchu. Pray for God's anointing on this new work.

24th CHAD *Exod 30*

Nathanael asks prayer for a local non-Christian teacher who is learning to read a tribal language, and is also participating in a project to record Bible stories in that language. Pray that his heart would be receptive to the Gospel.

25th JAPAN *Exod 31*

Pray for the Japan LB Synod as they implement plans for the coming year. Pray for the church to find new ways to reach their friends and family with the gospel.

26th N. AMERICA *Exod 32*

Pray for two families studying and preparing for cross-cultural mission work. Pray for wisdom as CLB leaders plan for their support

and provide adequate preparation for them.

27th TAIWAN *Exod 33*

The sudden death of **Lu** has been discouraging for **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson**. A non-Christian, Lu attended Bible study for over a year. Ethan and Sandy ask prayer for wisdom and urgency in outreach so that those on the brink of eternity have many opportunities to receive the gospel.

28th JAPAN *Exod 34*

Pray for **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** as they distribute homemade baked goods and Christian literature to people who received volunteer help right after the 2011 earthquake/tsunami. Happy birthday today to **Dean**.

29th CHAD *Exod 35*

Pray for further growth in the partnership between LBIM and the Chadian LB Church. Pray for the Chadian Church as they grow in how to encourage, support, and care for their missionaries.

30th TAIWAN *Exod 36*

Pray for **Pastor Tom Curry** and his wife, **Rhonda**, as they begin ministry at Victory English Fellowship (VEF). Pray also for **Pastor John Olson** and his family as they finish up their ministry at VEF over the next months and prepare for their return to the U.S.

31st CHAD *Exod 37*

Pray for **Daniel**, wife **Nancy** and their 3 children (from Taiwan) as they adjust to their new life in Chad at the Welcome Center. Pray for a good start to language learning for the family and for schooling for their children.

MUSLIM STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT JESUS IN BOKORO

Bokoro is a large town of over 15,000 people in central Chad. Located along one of the few paved roads that cross the country from west to east, Bokoro is a bustling town on the southern fringe of the Sahara Desert, made up of a mix of ethnicities and cultures. One of these ethnic groups is the Bilala people. They are an unreached Muslim people group, most of whom are subsistence farmers, scratching out a modest agricultural living from the land. The Bilala are a Muslim people. They have been untouched by the gospel of Jesus for centuries...until recently!

LBIM has been making a concerted effort to engage the Bilala with the gospel. In 2001, we sent Marcos and Kirsten Holzner to minister among the Bilala. They were joined by Chadian LB missionary partners Abel and Louise. Danny and Mandy Bronson were sent to Chad in 2015 to join this team. The Holzners and Bronsons are no longer on the field, but their presence there is bearing fruit!

In 2017, a small community of believers in Bokoro caught a vision for mission to their Muslim neighbors. They started a high school. They called the school “College Marcos”, named after our first missionary among the Bilala people. The exciting thing about this school is that it was started by the local minority Christian population, without outside help. When I visited Bokoro in 2019, I asked the director what their primary motivation was. He gave me three reasons:

1. The government/public school system was not providing quality education.
2. A school tends to facilitate peaceful relations in an ethnically diverse town such as Bokoro.
3. The example and teaching of LB missionaries had inspired local believers to engage their Muslim neighbors with the gospel.



So they started this school on their own initiative and with their own funds. This effort was blessed by not only the government but the local Muslim community. The great majority of the students are Muslim. The teachers are Christian, most being volunteers, coming in daily for an hour to teach a class. LBIM has provided some funding for infrastructure. A Bible course has been incorporated into the curriculum. Missionary Abel recounted to me how one Muslim student is excited to go home every night and share with her family the newest teaching from the bible that she has learned at school. At last report, the school has 133 students and 18 volunteer teachers.

On January 30th, the school was vandalized by some disgruntled members of the community. Desks, benches, and blackboards were destroyed. This is a set-back and a discouragement. But it is no surprise. Satan bares his teeth when the gospel is making inroads into his territory. But we know the outcome. There will be Bilala worshiping around God’s throne on that great day. Thank you for your prayers for the ongoing ministry of College Marcos!

~ Dan Venberg