

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

June 2021

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1st N. AMERICA *Lev 25*

David and **Sonja** ask prayer for the country of Chad, with all of the recent political upheaval. Pray that the country remains calm and safe for all those who live there. Happy 9th birthday today to **Boeden**!

2nd CHAD *Lev 26*

Pray for the families of **Nicholas & Olympa** and **Felix & Angel**, Chadian missionaries in training. Their studies have been disrupted in recent weeks due to unrest in Chad. Pray that they will be encouraged.

3rd N. AMERICA *Lev 27*

Matt is recovering from a second spinal surgery as a result of his motorcycle accident in France. Pray for ongoing therapy and continued progress toward healing and full health.

4th TAIWAN *Psalms 10 & 11*

Tomorrow, **Ben Hosch** will visit Hsinchu Presbyterian Church and share about their ministry. Some friends of the Hosches attend this church and are very supportive of missionaries in Taiwan. Ben and **Sara** are thankful to be blessed by other local Taiwanese Christians and opportunities to practice their Chinese language.

5th TAIWAN *Psalms 12 & 13*

John and **Caristy Olson** and their family leave Taiwan in July after serving at Victory English Fellowship for over 10 years. Pray for the transition process at Victory English Fellowship and for the Olson family's transition back to life and ministry in the States.

6th N. AMERICA *Psalms 14 & 15*

Nathanael and **Carrie** and their family are scheduled to begin their home assignment in Michigan this month. Pray for a good year of rest, renewal, time with family and good visits with churches and supporters.

7th TAIWAN *Prov 8 & 9*

Taiwan is in need of rain. They did not get enough moisture during either the spring rains or last year's typhoon season. There has been water rationing in order to slow down the use of water.

8th N. AMERICA *Prov 10*

Joel and **Liz** ask prayer for favor from consular officials throughout their visa application process as they seek to return to their place of ministry in East Asia by the end of the summer. Pray especially that Liz will be granted a spouse visa.

9th N. AMERICA *Num 1*

Jeremy and **Sallee** will be on vacation/home assignment until mid-July. Then, Lord willing, they will be able to return to Chad. Pray for their ministry of serving others at the Lutheran Welcome Center in the capital.

10th TAIWAN *Num 2*

China Lutheran Seminary holds graduation on June 12 and the Hakka Mission Seminary has graduation on the 20th. Pray that the graduates will boldly and effectively proclaim the gospel.

11th N. AMERICA *Num 3*

Matt and **Christina** ask prayer for wisdom as they explore the possibility of taking some courses through Lutheran Brethren Seminary during their time here.

12th TAIWAN *Num 4*

Tomorrow, **Mike** and **Delores Kittelson** assist with an outreach event in Yo tien village. Pray that many who hear the gospel in word and song will have their hearts made receptive to trust in Jesus.

13th JAPAN *Num 5*

Pray for wisdom as **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** continue to navigate the COVID situation. The vaccinations have fallen far behind schedule and people are feeling discouraged. Pray for God's continued work during this pandemic challenge.

14th N. AMERICA *Num 6*

Pray for our new LBIM missionaries, **Dan** and **Claire Rose**, as they prepare for future service in Chad. Dan is at a solar training event in Missouri (Off-Grid Tech) today through the 18th.

15th N. AMERICA *Num 7*

David and **Sonja** ask prayer for upcoming trips to LB churches. May these visits be a good time to reconnect with their supporters. Happy 11th Birthday **Eva**!

16th CHAD *Num 8*

Pray for **Daniel**, **Nancy** and **their children**, LB missionaries from Taiwan, as they resettle in the capital following the recent political unrest and violence. Pray for peace in their hearts and minds, and for their continued language and cultural studies.

17th N. AMERICA *Num 9*

Pray for many good opportunities for **Joel** and **Liz** to reconnect with family members, friends and US churches this summer as they prepare to return to their place of ministry in East Asia.

18th TAIWAN *Num 10*

Pray for a friend of **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson, Ms. Guo**. She has been coming to church regularly and shows interest in the Bible. Happy Birthday to Sandy.

19th N. AMERICA *Num 11*

Roger and **Sue Olson** are thankful for God leading people to Japanese Ministries who are searching for Him and finding Him. Please pray for them. The Olsons say they are overwhelmed with requests from the recently arrived Japanese college students for Zoom chat-pal partners. Pray for more volunteers to meet this need.

20th N. AMERICA *Num 12*

Pray for **Dan** and **Claire Rose** as they are commissioned today at Hillside Lutheran Brethren Church in Succasunna, NJ. May it be a

joyful time of celebration and renewed commitment to God's mission of calling all people to salvation in Jesus Christ.

21st N. AMERICA *Num 13*

Pray for another family currently considering cross-cultural ministry with LBIM. Pray for current ministry opportunities for them here at home while they discern God's leading for their future service in God's mission.

22nd JAPAN *Num 14*

Dean and **Linda Bengtson** ask prayer for the monthly "Words of Hope" Bible time with **Pastor Zeniya** tomorrow. Good weather means they can meet outdoors! Pray for open and receptive hearts among all who attend.

23rd N. AMERICA *Num 15*

Dan Venberg is attending a Radius International missionary conference in St. Paul, MN today and tomorrow with some of our missionaries who are currently Stateside (including the **Roses, Narvesens, Smiths, and Stantons**). Pray for a good time of learning, fellowship and team building. Happy Birthday to **Sallee Stanton**.

24th JAPAN *Num 16*

Pray for encouragement for Japanese pastors, as still only 1% of the Japanese profess the Christian faith. Pray that God will use these pastors to inspire their congregations toward effective and culturally appropriate ways to introduce their neighbors to Christ and His Church.

25th CHAD *Num 17*

June brings the rainy season in Chad. **Nathanael** and **Carrie** ask

prayer for health and good rains for their missionary partners in their village so they can grow their crops.

26th JAPAN *Num 18*

Linda Bengtson's friend, **N-san**, has been attending the Bible times with **Pastor Zeniya**. She observes all the Buddhist customs but doesn't really believe in them. Pray that her eyes will be opened to the truth of God's Word.

27th TAIWAN *Num 19*

Pray for wisdom as **Sara Hosch** works to plan some summer activities for kids in their apartment complex. Pray that these activities can serve as fruitful outreach opportunities.

28th JAPAN *Num 20*

Continue to pray with **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** for a full-time Japanese worker. Pray also for more Japanese workers to be called to work in church ministry in LB churches across Japan.

29th EAST ASIA *Num 21*

Joel's online classes for undergraduate students in East Asia end this month. Pray that themes of betrayal, salvation and redemption running through his literature and film courses might cause students to be more receptive to the gospel.

30th TAIWAN *Num 22*

Pray for wisdom and discernment as **Ben** and **Sara Hosch** follow up on two potential ministry locations and begin planning for future ministry, along with all the details that involves.

WORTH THE RISK

At the writing of this article, our missionaries in Chad are living through the stress, disruption, and anxiety that comes with civil war. Due to the danger that a national rebellion has presented to our missionaries in and around the capital of Ndjamea, we evacuated them to join up with Nathanael and Carrie Szobody in a rural community 200 miles to the SE. I can only speculate what the situation might be at the time of your reading this, but I invite you to pray for our missionaries as they serve in places that can be difficult. We often have to weigh the risks, yet acknowledge that risk is inherent to God's mission. The gospel is worth it. Below are some thoughts by [Nathanael Szobody](#), written on April 28, 2021.

“When we were sent by the Church to work in Chad, we accepted a certain amount of risk. There's no 911 to dial in Chad. Where we live in the bush it takes about six hours to get to a hospital in the capital city of Ndjamea, and that's when the roads are dry. During our first year in Chad our son got meningitis. At that time we lived near an airstrip and we were able to call a bush pilot to fly us to the hospital. Our second year in Chad I got appendicitis and Carrie drove us all to the capital as I braced for every bump in the dirt road. Our third year Carrie miscarried at 27 weeks pregnant. I was able to call an OBGYN, but there's not much they can do from a distance, and thankfully there were no complications.

Since those first three years in Chad it's been pretty smooth sailing. We've gotten better at caring for our health and pacing ourselves and our life here. But the risks remain. And some of them you just can't manage.

This year a rebel army marched on the capital city. The president of the country was killed in the ensuing battle. His son took control of the military, suspended the constitution and parliament, and declared martial law. A few days later, the population started rioting. And since the French voiced support for the new military leader, the rioters are targeting everything that seems French, like Total gas stations and white people. As I write this our colleagues have evacuated the capital and joined us here in our quiet bush village until the situation stabilizes.

It all seems such an interruption to ministry and life, as we wait here and pray. Then again, we have been sent by you to serve the people of Chad? What better a way to minister to them the gospel, to pray with and for them through difficult times? Would you pray with us?”

~ [Dan Venberg](#) & [Nathanael Szobody](#)



Celebrating Adelynn's birthday in Boudamasa!

L to R: Selma, Talitha, Adelynn, Chi, Joy (in Nancy's lap), Cyril