

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

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P.O. Box 655

Fergus Falls, MN 56538-0655

lbim@clba.org

Daniel Venberg, Director

Gaylan & Joy Mathiesen, Editors

1st JAPAN *Matt 25*

Dean and Linda Bengtson ask prayer for one of their older neighbors who desires to attend meetings at House of Hope, but can't for now due to COVID. Pray that God give her a hunger for His Word and speak to her through Christian literature.

2nd CHAD *Matt 26*

Chad is experiencing great economic woes and high levels of frustration with its political elite. Two-thirds of Chad's population live in abject poverty. Pray for political and economic stability, and for churches to bring a clear message of hope in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

3rd N. AMERICA *Matt 27*

Roger and Sue Olson, with Japanese Ministries in Seattle, report that the Hospitality College students from Japan arrive today. Though they can't start large group activities yet due to COVID, pray that the Lord will open up other creative ways to befriend them.

4th TAIWAN *Matt 28*

On Saturday evenings **Ethan and Sandy Christofferson** host an English youth fellowship in their home. Pray that Christian attendees will want to become equipped to reach the unreached around them

and that non-Christian participants would come to faith.

5th CHAD *Psalms 7,8,9*

Pray for the **Stanton** family during a busy time of travel and transition. **Jeremy** and **Sallee** will be Stateside for daughter **Abigail's** graduation from Hillcrest. Before returning to Chad, they will then help both **Olivia** and Abigail move to Wisconsin.

6th JAPAN *Prov 6*

Dean and Linda Bengtson ask prayer for a neighbor who had cancer surgery that removed most of her stomach. She is struggling with her treatments and is unable to eat. Another neighbor, Linda's hairdresser, also asked for prayer. Please pray for both of these women - **Mrs. S** and **Mrs. A**.

7th CHAD *Prov 7*

Nathanael and **Carrie** plan to travel back to the US on May 13. Pray that the family will be healthy at that time.

8th N. AMERICA *Lev 1*

Pray for **David** and **Sonja** as they continue to visit churches, reporting on their first term in the Chadian village. Pray that their home assignment will be refreshing and they can enjoy quality family time.

9th WORLD *Lev 2*

Tonight is the 27th night of Ramadan, when Mohammed was to have received his first revelations from God. It is believed that this "night of power" brings increased merit and forgiveness from God for their good deeds. Pray for the gospel to be clearly proclaimed.

10th CHAD *Lev 3*

David and Sonja, now on home assignment, ask prayer for those in their Chadian village as they finish observing Ramadan. Pray that they will see their need for the gospel.

11th N. AMERICA *Lev 4*

Pray for **Roger and Sue Olson** as they minister to two new couples attending Japanese Ministries because of the nursery provided by Rock of Ages and the English and Japanese Worship services. Pray that the Spirit of God would help them understand the gospel.

12th WORLD *Lev 5*

Today, around the world, Ramadan ends. This is the annual month long fast, hoping for God's forgiveness and mercy. Pray that they will come to know salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

13th N. AMERICA *Lev 6*

Pray for **Matt's** continued healing from his spinal injuries resulting from his accident in France. Pray for the family's ongoing French language studies in preparation for future ministry in Chad. Happy birthday tomorrow to **Matt!**

14th CHAD *Lev 7*

Pray for **Djiddo**, a young believer who has faced harsh

persecution from his family. Pray that he will be encouraged in the Spirit, and bring many others to salvation. Happy 10th birthday **Cyril!**

15th TAIWAN *Lev 8*

Mike and Delores Kittelson ask prayer for tomorrow's Mother's day church outing, giving thanks for all mothers and having a time of food and fellowship.

16th WORLD *Lev 9*

Pray for the families of over 2.8 million who died from COVID-19 (including 577,000 in US/Canada). Pray for healing for the sick and suffering, stamina for health and science workers, wisdom for world leaders, and for churches to minister God's grace and hope in Christ to their communities.

17th TAIWAN *Lev 10*

Pray for wisdom for **Ben and Sara Hosch** as they solidify what their future ministry and location in Taiwan will be. Pray also for discernment in school choices for their children in the next academic year. Happy 8th birthday **Emery!**

18th CHAD *Lev 11*

Paul and Teresa ask prayer for their Chadian students as they strive to overcome personal conflicts, tribal prejudices, and avoid giving offense while approaching local unreached people.

19th N. AMERICA *Lev 12*

Joel is working closely with two graduate students who serve as teaching assistants for online courses he is teaching through a university in East Asia. Pray that these assistants might encounter

Christ through their interactions with Joel and the course materials.

20th CHAD *Lev 13*

Pray for **Daniel**, wife **Nancy**, and **their children**, for health, language acquisition and cultural adaptation. The family comes from our sister church in Taiwan.

21st NIGERIA *Lev 14*

Pray for peace in Nigeria, long plagued with violent conflicts. Much of the violence occurs in the in the central region, where there are overlapping quarrels over land and water, ethnicity and religion.

22nd TAIWAN *Lev 15*

Pray for **Pastor John Olson** and his family as they finish up their ministry at Victory English Fellowship over the next months and prepare to return to the U.S.

23rd JAPAN *Lev 16*

Mission agencies classify Japan as the 2nd largest unreached people group in the world; only 1% profess Christianity. Pray for new Japanese seminary students, and for new missionaries to go to Japan.

24th CHAD *Lev 17*

Pray for **Jean** and **Jacqueline**, graduates of the missionary training school. They are now ministering to an unreached people group in a small village.

25th N. AMERICA *Lev 18*

Pray for **Nathanael** and **Carrie** and family as they transition to their home assignment in the States. Pray for quality family time and good health.

26th CHAD *Lev 19*

Praise the Lord that after a long wait, a competent mason has built the mission school building. Pray for the teachers and missionaries who minister to the students every day.

27th JAPAN *Lev 20*

Pray for tomorrow's "Words of Hope" meeting with **Pastor Zeniya**. Pray that each heart will be receptive to God's Word. Pray for weather nice enough to meet outside, since more people may then feel comfortable to attend.

28th JAPAN *Lev 21*

The region that experienced the violent earthquake and tsunami in 2011 has again been experiencing strong aftershocks. Pray for **Dean** and **Linda Bengtson** as they minister in Ishinomaki, an area hard hit in the 2011 disaster.

29th N. AMERICA *Lev 22*

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.

30th CHAD *Lev 23*

Paul asks prayer for **Ahamad**, a local religious teacher who requested an Arabic version of the Bible. Pray for his heart to be receptive to what he reads in the Bible.

31st N. AMERICA *Lev 24*

Pray for two families that are preparing for future service with LBIM. Pray for their ongoing training and for supporting churches to back them in prayer and in finances.

MIGRANTS IN TAIWAN

It used to be that of the 4 common languages spoken for announcements in supermarkets and on public transportation, the only foreign language was English (the other three being the most commonly spoken in Taiwan: Mandarin, Taiwanese, and Hakka). However, Taiwan is quickly becoming a little “melting pot” in its own right. Today one can quite often hear Vietnamese, Thai, and Indonesian used in public service announcements and on public buses and trains.



Mandarin & Vietnamese characters used for language learning at Zhubei Victory

In 2018, the number of Vietnamese in Taiwan was reported at 224,000; Indonesians number about 144,000, and there are around 65,000 Thais living in Taiwan. Indonesians (mainly women) are most often hired by Taiwanese families to care for elderly parents. Many Vietnamese women in Taiwan are married to Taiwanese men through a mail order bride system; they are often referred to as “families with *foreign* brides.” And the majority of Vietnamese men and Thai work manufacturing jobs in Taiwanese factories.

Of these three Southeast Asian people groups living in Taiwan, the only one currently with a wide-spread missionary presence is the Thai, thanks to current and previous work by German missionaries. Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world, and the government does not allow Christian missionaries, creating a barrier for the gospel. And even though Vietnam prides itself on being less restrictive on religion than other communist countries, missionaries are still not allowed in the country and the vast majority of Vietnamese will never have a chance to hear about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Because the overall Christian population in Taiwan is still below 5%, not many churches are aware of the need for these migrant workers in Taiwan to hear the gospel. And yet, Vietnamese and Indonesians have little to no opportunity in their own country to hear about the Good News of Jesus Christ and the forgiveness of sins. They may have come to Taiwan for economic reasons and opportunities, but it’s amazing to ponder that they also have a chance to hear the gospel for the first time!

Currently one of our CLBC churches in Taiwan is building a ministry teaching Chinese to Vietnamese in Zhubei. Other churches are asking how to reach out to Indonesian health care workers who accompany elderly church members to Sunday morning services. Pray for our Taiwanese churches as they are opening their eyes to the growing mission field around them, and seeing the many migrant workers who desperately need the Gospel of Jesus. Pray also for our LBIM missionaries in Taiwan as we seek the Lord of the harvest and work through what it would look like to partner with our CLBC churches and reach out to “families with foreign brides” and Vietnamese factory workers living in Zhubei.