

Daily Prayer Notes

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1st TAIWAN *John 2*

Mike and Delores Kittelson return to Taiwan today after visiting family in the US and will quarantine for 2 weeks. Current government guidelines only allow for quarantine in designated hotels or government facilities. Pray for policy changes that will allow them to quarantine in their home.

2nd FRANCE *John 3*

Dan and Claire Rose start Les Cèdres French Christian Language School today. Pray for them, and for their children who are starting French public school. Pray for **Cathy Barlow** who is with the Roses to help as they transition to France and start language learning.

3rd N. AMERICA *John 4*

John and Caristy Olson have recently relocated to the U.S. from Taiwan. We thank them for their decade of faithful ministry with Victory English Fellowship and pray for a good transition to their new season of ministry in the States.

4th N. AMERICA *John 5*

Pray for **Dave and Sonja Narvesen** and children as they travel out west to share the vision of their work in Chad. Pray for safe travels, good health, and good connections with churches.

5th E. ASIA *John 6*

Pray for an opening for **Liz** to receive a work visa to return to their place of ministry in E. Asia. Due to COVID restrictions, most normal visa services have been suspended.

6th N. AMERICA *John 7*

Pray for **Matt and Christina Smith** as they move to Fergus Falls, MN so Matt can start LB seminary this month. Pray for this new adjustment for their family. Continue to pray for Matt's physical therapy and recovery.

7th TAIWAN *John 8*

Over the summer, **Ethan and Sandy Christofferson** have been discipling three college students. Pray for these young men as they head back to college, that they will be proactive about joining a good church and growing in their faith.

8th CHAD *John 9*

Jeremy Stanton asks prayer for the Welcome Center neighborhood, as many are without daily power. The power grid is in great need of repair.

9th N. AMERICA *John 10*

Pray for **Matt and Christina Smith** as they explore good homeschooling options in Fergus Falls for their children in the coming year. Happy 13th birthday tomorrow to **Verity**.

10th JAPAN *John 11*

Praise God for CLB Women's Ministries' gift for the "House of Hope Playground Project," which will cover the cost of installing a table and benches in the playground next door to **Dean and Linda Bengtson's** home. Pray that this will be a Christian witness to neighborhood leaders, parents, and kids in the neighborhood who play at the park. Pray that God will use this project for His glory.

11th N. AMERICA *John 12*

Roger and Susan Olson of Japanese Ministries in Seattle are thankful for answered prayer as things have opened up again for group activities with the Japanese students! They've seen great turnouts for both Rock Talk/Talk Time, and Sunday Worship. Pray for hearts to be receptive to the gospel as they hear God's Word.

12th CHAD *John 13*

Paul Szobody writes that the current military regime is in dialogue with French and international authorities concerning Chad's transition to democratic elections. Pray for a peaceful transition and future for the Chadian churches and mission. Happy 18th birthday today to **Micah**.

13th TAIWAN *John 14*

Pray for **Ben and Sara Hosch** for rest and regrouping as COVID restrictions relax again. Pray for strength and stamina as their children return to school and Ben and Sara return to language classes.

14th N. AMERICA *John 15*

Nathanael and Carrie Szobody and their family are visiting relatives and a few churches in the

Eastern region. Pray that the churches they visit will be encouraged. Happy 5th birthday to **Talitha**.

15th JAPAN *John 16*

Pray for **Dean and Linda Bengtson** and their ministry in Ishinomaki. Neighbors have been helping them with their vegetable garden. Pray that God will bless these times for sharing the hope of the gospel.

16th EAST ASIA *John 17*

Pray for the millions that have been displaced by devastating floods in the region where **Joel and Liz** lived during their first three terms in E. Asia. May thousands come to saving faith and find comfort in the gospel of Christ.

17th CHAD *John 18*

Pray for **Paul and Teresa Szobody** as they minister in the village of Aderé. Pray for the community of students and families that are training for ministry to unreached Muslim groups. Pray that God will continue to bring unity and peace to this group.

18th N. AMERICA *John 19*

Roger and Sue Olson have started a bilingual couples' study of "Biblical Answers for Struggling Marriages." Please pray for them to be vessels of hope and help to the couples they minister to.

19th N. AMERICA *John 20*

Pray for **Dan Venberg** who will be speaking at Elim Church in Clearwater, MN today. Pray that the church will be encouraged by what God is doing through LBIM. Pray for Dan as he seeks to assist and

mobilize CLBA congregations in vision and support of LBIM.

20th TAIWAN *John 21*

Pray for the salvation of **Mrs. Dong**. Pray also that her family members will allow her to attend church and study the Bible with **Sandy Christofferson**.

21st JAPAN *Joshua 1*

Pray for the Bible time meetings tomorrow at House of Hope with **Pastor Zeniya**. They meet the fourth Wednesday of each month. Pray for each person who attends, that God will open their heart to the truths of His Word.

22nd N. AMERICA *Joshua 2*

Pray for **Paul and Alexa Fraser** and their two sons as they begin their internship in Seattle, working with Japanese Ministries alongside **Roger and Sue Olson**. Pray that they will learn much and be able to use their gifts to share the gospel.

23rd TAIWAN *Joshua 3*

Delegates from the 18 churches of the Chinese LBC will gather on Sept. 25 for a special convention. Praise God that Guan-shin Victory LBC will be received as a new member church! Pray for **Pastor Zhong** as he leads this rapidly growing church.

24th CHAD *Joshua 4*

Nathanael and Carrie Szobody ask prayer for the Jesus Film project in Bagirmi that began this year. May it be completed soon so that many Bagirmi may learn of the life of Jesus in their own language. Happy birthday **Nathanael**.

25th N. AMERICA *Joshua 5*

Today and tomorrow is the Seminary Women's retreat at I-Point in MN. Pray for **Sonja Narvesen** who is one of the speakers. Pray that the women will catch a fresh vision for supporting global mission work.

26th CHAD *Joshua 6*

Pray for **Jeremy and Sallee Stanton** as they manage the Welcome Center during this time of pandemic and political uncertainty. Prayers for their daughters, **Olivia** and **Abigail** back in the US as they transition into adulthood.

27th JAPAN *Joshua 7*

Pray for the church in Japan as it seeks to reach out to families and neighbors during another surge in the pandemic. Pray for wisdom, and for compassion toward those who have not yet heard the gospel.

28th TAIWAN *Joshua 8*

Pray for **Ben and Sara Hosch** and for the church in Taiwan as they make decisions regarding their future ministry location. Pray that God will give wisdom and a passion for this new venture in their life.

29th CHAD *Joshua 9*

Pray for **the Wen Family** as they continue to study Arabic language and adjust to the culture. Pray for the education situation for their children.

30th JAPAN *Joshua 10*

From October through March, seminary students **Haruya** and **Chikara** will be interning at House of Hope every weekend. Pray for their ministry in the neighborhood and for God's encouragement and direction for their future ministries.

“HOME” FOR SQUARES, TRIANGLES, AND STARS

After so many transitions: France, Chad – both the capital & our village – in 2020 we experienced almost a year of no major firsts, minus the pandemic. We knew where to get things we needed, and we experienced all the seasons of Chad, both in the capital and in our village. It was nice to have a time of familiar; a break from bracing for the unknown. Then November arrived and brought another first: returning to our passport country. Our first furlough, or “home assignment,” had arrived and this was unknown territory. We had done lots of leaving, but now we were returning. As I scoured the internet for missionary articles to prepare us for this unknown, I read an article of what NOT to say to a missionary kid: “Welcome home.” “Home” by Webster’s definition is: “one’s place of residence; a social unit formed by a family living together; a familiar setting; a place of origin.” God blessed us with a house during our year in the States that we call home, yet one of our kids declares that it’s not our home, but Bruce’s.

Another one of my kids has asked me where their home is. And another inquired how they were to answer the question of where they are from. It’s not an easy answer.

In April, we got to return to Colorado where we had



trained before leaving for the field. We actually stayed in the exact same rooms we had four years before! It was a wonderful time to debrief. Dave and I appreciated the space to process, reflect, and learn, and felt like we could’ve had at least another week to rest and unpack all the information. During one of the sessions, we learned that Dave and I grew up in one country full of “squares.” Now after living in a different culture of “circles” our corners have changed into “triangles.” Our kids on the other hand are growing up being shaped by more than one culture and are a totally different shape: they are “stars.” It was a fascinating visual for Dave and me to ponder and ask God how we, as “triangles,” parent “stars.” Honestly part of me wants to cry as my kids won’t have the same childhood as I did. Another part of me wants to despair as I have no idea how to travel this unknown. BUT GOD – he reminds me that it’s ok. He is the Almighty. “Lean closer to me”, he whispers. The definition I held of home is changing for me and it’s different for my kids and that’s ok. *Home has become a place that is familiar, brings comfort, and is where the people I love are. Home has become more than one place and sometimes that is unsettling in my heart. But God put that unsettling in all our hearts because this earth is not our home.* Thanks be to God!

~Sonja Narvesen