



Missions Prayer Calendar

A SIMPLE WAY TO PRAY
FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

APRIL

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

MATTHEW 9:37 (ESV)

Introduction

“Pray also for us...”

So states the apostle Paul in Colossians 4:3 (ESV), acknowledging a somewhat stunning reality: though the Christians to whom he was writing were separated from him physically, they could nonetheless participate in his ministry! God’s people could join in God’s work of taking the gospel to those who hadn’t heard it simply by praying for their missionary pastor.

These realities are no less true today. As a church, Parkside has been blessed with the opportunity to support many missionaries scattered around the world, all of whom are seeking to share the good news of Jesus with people who have yet to hear and believe it. Can we really help them, being thousands of miles and numerous time zones away? According to Paul, yes! The purpose of this missionary prayer calendar is to inform you of what is going on in certain parts of the world and invite you to participate in the work through prayer.

The format is simple. Each day, you will find a missionary or organization that Parkside supports, along with one of their specific prayer requests. You’ll also find a different country of the world and how you can best be praying for the people there.

Our hope in arranging this is that you’ll know the privilege of participating in the work of the gospel, which, as Paul also tells the Colossians, is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world. We trust that praying for the nations will increase our heart for the world, causing us to increasingly desire and work toward seeing unbelieving people of all nations become committed followers of Christ!



To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.

What You Can Do



Pray

Utilize this booklet and enter into the work of our missionaries via prayer. You can also receive the daily prayer requests in your inbox by signing up for the daily devotional at parksidechurch.com/subscribe.

Join us Sunday evenings for Missions Prayer Time, online or in-person, from 5:00-5:45pm in Room A205. For an online invitation, email Cliff at cjjbandrews@sbcglobal.net.



Learn

Increase your awareness of what God is doing among the nations by reading *Operation World* by Jason Mandryk. You can pick up a copy of the book at Books by the Park. The prayer requests for different countries in this calendar are excerpts from that book and the operationworld.org website.



Give

Thanks to your generous giving, we were able to allocate \$3,421,410 toward missions in 2024. As we look to the future, it seems there are even more opportunities for us to take the gospel to the world, and we are trusting God for the capacity to do so.



Go

Consider traveling to serve our missionaries or other partners by participating in a short-term mission trip. Watch the bulletin for details on upcoming trips.

Parkside Church Missionaries



E & J*
M, J, C
**Names withheld for security purposes*



Mark & Patti Bean
Andy, Emily, Eric, Ernie



Wes & Nancy Collins
Elisa, Molly, Isaac



Chris & Leanne Harrington
Mark, Lillia, Claire, Graham, Jude



Andrew & Angie James
Nicole, Camille, Zack



Kep & Debbie James
Heather, Katie, Andrew



B & J*
M, O, P, P, G
**Names withheld for security purposes*



J & A*
A, E
**Names withheld for security purposes*



Mike & Joan Ross
Steve, Ben, Aaron

APRIL

1

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

On April 3, Good Friday, their church will host an evangelistic dinner. Pray that the members of the church will be faithful in inviting their non-believing friends and family, that the evangelistic message will be clear, and that there will be spiritual fruit from this effort. Andrew and Angie are thankful that their family is doing well. Please pray that their children will continue to grow in love and commitment to the Lord.

Niger (Africa). Population: 27,918,000 Believers: 0.1%. The numbers of those who follow Christ increases, but Niger's high birthrates far outpace Christianity's growth rate. There is great pressure to remain in—or return to—Islam. New believers feel isolated. Below the radar, movements are forming of Jesus followers who have seen enough of Islam to choose a different path. Pray for those from a Muslim background who have chosen to follow Jesus; may they persevere and remain faithful amidst all the difficulties they will face.

APRIL

2

Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, South Africa

Johannes and his fellow workers are busy with preparations for their Good Friday outreach. Pray for God's favor upon the people who are leading this service and that the hearts of the people attending will be ready to accept the good news of Jesus Christ. God has opened a door for Johannes to pray weekly for the community on a radio station. Pray for the Lord to use him for his benefit as he seeks to make Christ known. Please continue to pray for the success of this summer's VBC. Pray for a breakthrough as they face delays in areas outside of the school as well as with the principal in the host school.

Nigeria (Africa). Population: 237,528,000 Believers: 30.8%. Africa and Nigeria's greatest spiritual challenge is discipleship, not Islam, not corruption, and not even the need for missions. The church grew so fast that many new believers have little chance to be discipled. Much division and false teaching enters churches. Prosperity teaching distorts the gospel. A form of Christianity mixed with African tribal religious practices is common. Many Christians seem to live by other values than what the Bible clearly teaches. Pray that humility, simplicity, and holiness might become the motto of the Nigerian church.

APRIL

3

Shoreline Church, United States

Pray for Shoreline as they celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and share the message of redemption with their community at their Good Friday and Easter services. Pray that the church body will welcome and minister to those visiting for the first time. Pray for unity and fellowship among the Young Families Ministry as they meet at a community park this month. Pray for Theresa Durbin and her volunteers who lead the Lunchbox Kids group. Praise the Lord that Youth For Christ's deaf and hard of hearing ministry is going well. Their Friday night club reaches many students in addition to one-on-one coaching calls and life assistance. They are also preparing for summer camps. Pray that God will provide the volunteers needed.

Norway (Europe). Population: 5,623,000 Believers: 8.4%. Norway has a powerful spiritual heritage, and influence from prayer and revival movements across the last 200 years remains clear. But Norway faces the same battles as other European societies, where people believe that different religions or moral practices can be true for different people or in different situations. Pray for a new revival and for a deep commitment to biblical faith and practice.

APRIL

4

**Emily (& Blake) Ackerson, Bridges International, Australia
Ruth (& Artis) Powell, United States, Zambia**

Pray for Bridges' Easter outreach gatherings—that international students will hear and respond to the hope found in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Pray for the students who will be guests of Christian host families for Easter. Pray also for the six Indian students who are regularly exploring Jesus and for the nearly 50 students who are in investigative Bible studies. Ask God that the message of the gospel would be clear and that he would grant them the gift of faith in him. Pray for Ruth and two of her children as they spend most of April in Zambia visiting Equipping Servants International (ESI) groups and providing a Bible Club for children. Pray for God to provide a missionary to partner with their work in Kasempa, Zambia. In addition to spiritual nurturing, the ministry there includes providing access to clean water, education, and healthcare for the community. Last year, they hired a doctor to provide healthcare to people in the community, and he is dependent on the ministry to provide funding for medicine to treat patients and for his salary. Please pray for resources to continue to offer these services.

Oman (Asia). Population: 5,495,000 Believers: 0.8%. Praise God that Oman enjoys an open and modern society compared to others in the region. All residents may practice their faith, and the government gave land to build places of worship! Pray now for spiritual openness to the gospel among all peoples of Oman.

APRIL

5

Parkside Green, United States

Please pray for the Lord to use Pastor Adam's Easter gospel preaching, their adult classes on the New City Catechism, Global Missions, and the Gospel of John, and their youth and kids' ministries to help the people of Parkside Green become committed followers of Jesus Christ. Please also ask the Lord to accomplish his purposes globally through those they support: Dr. Jen Kintner with all the upheaval in the UAE, Bryan and Erin Joseph with all the upheaval in Mexico, and Brett and Jennifer Wright, serving in aviation missions in Uganda.

Pakistan (Asia). Population: 255,220,000 Believers: 0.6%. The church continues to grow despite many obstacles. Some Christians live devoted lives, committed to God, but the majority have a weak, immature faith. Ask God to raise up humble, committed spiritual leaders with passion to serve the church. Pray for more students in Bible and leadership training, wise and godly leaders, and adequate financial resources for Christian work.

APRIL

6

Kep & Debbie James, Africa, Europe, and the Americas

Kep and Debbie ask for prayer while they are in Africa from April 6-25. Artis and Ruth Powell will join them as they visit ESI groups in Lusaka, Zambia. Following that visit, Paulo will join them to visit ESI groups in Harare, Zimbabwe. Then, Kep and Debbie will go on to Senegal to train Fulani church planters, where they will be studying the book of Romans. Pray for gospel impact in the lives of those they encounter this month.

Palestine (Asia). Population: 5,590,000 Believers: 0.1%. The horrific Hamas attacks of October 7, 2023, not only escalated murderous violence in this region, but also provoked deep division on the Israel-Palestine situation globally—not least among Christians. Pray for improved living conditions for those in Gaza who have been displaced. Pray for a just settlement of land issues. There are hundreds of Jewish settlements (including many illegal outposts) in Palestinian territory, and there are over two million Arab Israeli in Israel. Both sides feel strong claims to the land. Both feel aggrieved at past—and very real—injustices. Both believe God is on their side. Pray that the God of all justice will bring true justice and mercy to both Jews and Arabs in the Holy Land. Pray not only for the peace of Jerusalem, but also that both sides meet the Prince of Peace. It is through him alone that any meaningful reconciliation will come.

APRIL

7

Truth For Life, United States

Truth For Life will host a small group seminar for pastors on April 8. Pray that this will be a time for the pastors participating to be strengthened for their work in ministry. Ask God to use the time to energize the men with a passion to preach the gospel and to lead their congregations faithfully, adhering to God's Word. Please keep the Truth For Life board members in your prayers as they gather on April 14 for their semi-annual meeting to discuss the ministry's priorities. Ask God to give the board direction and wisdom for how Truth For Life can continue to reach more people throughout the world with the gospel.

Panama (Latin America). Population: 4,571,000 Believers: 19.3%. Proximity to Colombia and the prevalence of offshore finance in Panama mean that drug cartels and other undesirables have a strong presence. Much of Panama's economy is in service to either these offshore banks or is used to launder money. In 2016, the leak of the Panama Papers exposed massive scales of international tax evasion and fraud facilitated through Panama-based services. Pray for a government that will root out corruption, oppose wickedness, and uphold righteousness.

APRIL

8

Equipping Servants International (ESI), Africa, Europe, and the Americas

Continue to pray for the 3,200 participants studying the Bible in 270 ESI groups in 35 countries in North and South America, Africa, and Europe. Pray specifically for Pastor Jose Gutierrez, Pastor Sebastian Moreno, Pastor Edgar Mamani, Paulo da Silva, and Isaac Chitibwe. These leaders are training and building ESI teams around the world. Praise the Lord for the two ESI groups that began meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, following the ESI Facilitator Training there in February. Pray that these 30 pastors and church leaders will experience deep gospel transformation through their study of Romans, impacting many local churches across that country.

Papua New Guinea (Pacific). Population: 10,763,000 Believers: 25.7%. Translation and literacy programs and appropriate Christian literature are fundamental for acculturating the gospel. PNG has over 800 languages, and the majority still do not have a single verse of Scripture. About 210 languages have a NT, but only 12 or so have a complete Bible. Translation teams are needed for 160 languages and possibly for a further 250. Pray for translators, for means of making the arduous task faster and more accurate, and for indigenous translators/language assistants.

APRIL

9

Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Pheneger, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

Goran and Beth are on a ministry trip in Brazil until April 11. Pray for the training Goran is doing and for their time with brothers and sisters there. Ambassadors is experiencing leadership transitions in Europe. In Slovakia, Lukas and Lydia left the ministry after eight years of serving. Pray for the transition and for Pastor Stevo as he potentially steps into the leadership role. In Holland, Jacob and Marjan left the ministry after seven years of serving. Ambassadors is thankful for their dedication and passion for the work across Europe. In Italy, Davide and Elena moved from the city of Lodi in the north closer to Rome, and the leader who assumed responsibility for that ministry had to step away due to a moral failure. Please pray for wisdom for Pastor Genaro, the denominational leaders, and everyone involved.

Paraguay (Latin America). Population: 7,013,000 Believers: 6.1%. Thank the Lord for evangelical church growth. Pray for Christian unity and collaboration among many different evangelical denominations. Pray that local churches will embrace the challenge of the unreached and needy within Paraguay and beyond.

APRIL

10

E & J, North Africa

Currently, E and J are settling into temporary life in Ohio. They praise God that they have experienced his love through the welcome and love of his people. E is continuing to support colleagues and business efforts back in North Africa. J recently enjoyed some special time at a women's conference, and the children enjoyed time in the snow and mud! Pray for J as she homeschools the children.

Peru (Latin America). Population: 34,577,000 Believers: 11.6%. The Quechua and Aymara peoples, descendants of the Incas, are emerging from centuries of oppression, cultural deprivation, grinding poverty, and isolation. The Quechua church is flourishing as Christianity at last becomes indigenized in Scriptures, structures, worship, and music. Pray for: a) Millions of mountain Quechua and Aymara still bound by superstitions of pagan and “Christian” origin; b) The Bible translation teams and for widespread use of these new resources; c) The full reconciliation between Quechua and Spanish speakers at the foot of the cross and the full integration of all ethnic groups into national Christian life.

APRIL

11

Mark & Patti Bean, Peru, United States

Continue to pray for careful attention to detail as Mark checks over translation work for different Quechua teams. For the PN Quechua team, he's checking Ecclesiastes and Daniel. For the group of four Quechua teams, he'll be checking the second half of Joshua. Pray for Quechua speaking pastors and church leaders to do the hard work of learning to read fluently in their own language. Pray for them to begin to use newly translated portions of Scripture. Praise God for the opportunity to spend time with their middle son and his family.

Philippines (Asia). Population: 116,787,000 Believers: 12.3%. Metro Manila is a mega-city of 13 million people, with the Greater Manila area up to 26 million. It faces enormous challenges, but God is greatly at work here. Many are open to the gospel, but most evangelical churches are in wealthier areas. Nearly 50% of slums and squatter communities have no evangelical church. At the same time, Manila is home to the country's wealthy elite. Pray that the gospel will impact them also, as they hold much power and the potential to transform Manila and the whole nation.

APRIL

12

Fieldstone Counseling, United States

Fieldstone Counseling is grateful for our continued prayers and support. They give thanks for the ways the Lord has been at work through their Counselor Consultation Group and ReStoried support group. They are also thankful for the meaningful time the team shared together at their annual retreat in February and for the encouragement and unity it brought. Please continue to pray that individuals in need of counseling will connect with them and receive timely, Christ-centered care. Pray for their counselors and staff as they faithfully walk alongside those facing life's hardships and offer them the lasting hope of Christ.

Poland (Europe). Population: 38,141,000 Believers: 0.3%. Praise God for the stability, progress, and freedom that allows believers to preach the good news! Many Poles dreamed of new wealth after independence from Communist rule. Sadly, unemployment and poverty still affect many, especially in rural areas. Young people have more material possessions, but now struggle with violence, immorality, and meaninglessness in society. Pray the people might search first for God, above all other pursuits.

APRIL

13

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Chris and Leanne are praising the Lord for the baptisms of three students at SBBC this past month. Parkside has been a part of praying for these kids over the last eleven years. Pray for them as they continue to go deeper in their relationship with Jesus after making this public profession of faith. Kurume Christ Church (KCC) is installing a new pastor this month. This is a church that SEND missionaries planted many years ago, and the Lord has blessed the area through the ministry of KCC. Pray that the Lord continues to bless the transition and new stage of life for this church family.

Portugal (Europe). Population: 10,412,000 Believers: 3.0%. Pray for church planting efforts in Portugal. Many congregations closed, and many others appeared. Nearly half of current evangelical congregations were started since 2001, and the vision to grow and plant more churches is widespread. Pray for continued church growth, for affordable and appropriate meeting places, and for leaders for these future churches.

APRIL

14

Scranton Road Bible Church, United States

Praise God for a fruitful mission trip to Cuba. Eight of their members worked with multiple churches around Santiago. Continue to pray for the two new elders, who were installed in February. Pray for all their elders as they continue to work out strategy and vision for the next several years. This month, they are beginning a five-week sermon series preaching through Psalms 42–47. As they prepare for their spring and summer outreaches in their neighborhood, pray that they will be able to reach their neighbors with the good news of Jesus Christ and then follow up after these events in an organized and productive way.

Puerto Rico (Caribbean). Population: 3,235,000 Believers: 25.2%. Evangelical churches grew from 0.1% in 1900 to over 25% today! Pray for effective training and support of new mission ventures. Media ministries use TV, local radio, and internet sites to offer practical answers to life and faith questions. Pray for ministries to continue shaping future leaders and for discipleship movements to transform the lives of believers.

APRIL

15

J & A, Asia

Pray for peace in the Middle East, according to God's will, and that believers will not be alarmed by "wars or rumors of wars" (Matt. 24:6). As J and A transition in the coming months into a completely different way of living as a family, pray for strength and wisdom. They will be learning a new language and culture. Pray that they will not be discouraged by the discomforts they may encounter but will be living examples of God's grace for their children and unbelievers.

Qatar (Asia). Population: 3,116,000 Believers: 1.0%. Almost every Qatari follows Islam, whether they are from Arab, Persian, or Bantu (former slave) backgrounds. Pray that Qataris at home and abroad would hear about Jesus and for the birth of a Qatari church. Pray for Christians to take employment opportunities (from manual labor to executive positions) to increase the presence of God's kingdom in Qatar.

APRIL

16

The City Mission, United States

On April 17, The City Mission hosts its annual fundraiser, *Elevate: Lifting Stories of Hope Gala*. Pray that generous donations will allow The City Mission to continue to serve the men, women, and children in crisis offering shelter, food, safety, and hope in gospel. Pray that the hearts of guests who are not believers would be touched as they hear the testimonies of men from Crossroads and women from Laura's Home.

Romania (Europe). Population: 18,909,000 Believers: 5.4%. Romanians as a mission force are a new and quickly expanding dynamic. At least ten indigenous sending agencies have emerged since 2000, and training programs are multiplying. Romanians can easily access fields that Westerners cannot, and agencies are interested in Romanians serving with them. Limiting factors are the lack of financial support/sponsorship and the lagging missions vision in many churches. Pray for the removal of every barrier to the full flowering of an indigenous missions movement.

APRIL

17

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

Pray for Yessen, who is taking the leadership role in a church plant. Pray for God's direction as he works with local believers and local gospel leaders. Also pray for Sabira, who is taking the lead in their ESL ministry. Julie is working with missionary kids, helping them get the education they need. Pray for wisdom from the Lord concerning her role in the upcoming school year.

Russia (Europe). Population: 143,997,000 Believers: 1.2%. Russia's increasing predations in other former Soviet states fully manifested in the 2022 invasion of Ukraine. The hundreds of thousands of young lives spent and the hundreds of thousands of others that have fled the country exacerbate an already grim demographic future for Russia. When you add to this the countless billions spent and a tattered global reputation, recovery may take generations—if it comes at all. For the sake of Russia, its neighbors, and the world, pray for peace, transparency, and truth to prevail in a nation where all three have been in short supply.

The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth



Our Focus in Global Missions

- Parkside Missionaries
- Ministry Partner (13 states in N. India)
- Equipping Servants International Locations





AN UPDATE FROM MARK & PATTI BEAN

MISSIONARIES SERVING IN
PERU & THE UNITED STATES

After several decades living in the central Andes of Peru translating the Bible for Quechua languages, the Beans now work mostly from Ohio via internet. They work to provide Quechua Scripture and biblical materials to Quechua-speaking churches in central Peru.

CURRENT BIBLE TRANSLATION WORK

Mark now serves as the translation consultant for two different projects involving a total of five closely related central Quechua languages. In one language, the main Quechua translator has experience, but the men working in the other four areas are still new at reading and writing in their own language.

For both projects, Mark prepares rough drafts for the teams to use. He does this by adapting from neighboring Bible translations, using a package of computer programs. Then, Mark carefully goes over the edits that each team makes. He notes not just instances of incorrect meaning or phrases that might lead to misunderstanding, but he also notes inconsistent spelling and word choices. They go back and forth until the text is as good as they can get it.

Last month, Mark was in Peru to work with the group of new translators. One team worked to check the final chapters of Genesis and the books of Jonah and Ruth with men from communities they're translating for. They want to make sure that their translation can be understood. In these sessions, even pastors discover that they can understand these books of Scripture for the first time!

Time was also spent learning Quechua grammar and going over Mark's observations of the first half of Joshua, helping the men understand the issues at stake.



In between “workshops” with Mark, whether in person like he was in March or virtually from Ohio, the men take their newly translated portions out to communities in their respective areas. One big job they face is helping Quechua speakers learn to read in their language, using both simple readers and new Scripture portions. In the other translation project, Mark is checking the books of Ecclesiastes and Daniel.

Patti holds down the fort and tries to free Mark from as many responsibilities as possible, including some simple chapter setup work in Quechua. She also meets online with new missionaries as they begin serving in Peru. Mark and Patti’s four children and dozen grandchildren are usually spread out on four continents. One family is temporarily in the area, and they are thankful for the time they’ll have together in the months ahead.

PRAISE AND PRAYER REQUESTS

- Continue to pray for careful attention to detail as Mark checks over translation work from different Quechua teams.
- Pray for Quechua-speaking pastors and church leaders to do the hard work of learning to read fluently in their own language. Pray for them to begin to use newly translated portions of Scripture.
- Praise God for the opportunity to spend time with their middle son and his family. Praise God for the anticipation of having all their children together for a week this summer. It will be the first time in nine years, and the very first time all twelve grandchildren will be in one place!

Photos: Page 1: Mark & Patti. Page 2, Left: Mark observing Percy checking Scripture. Right: Group of pastors learning Quechua grammar.

APRIL

18

Mike & Joan Ross, Mexico, United States

Pray for wisdom regarding the future of the Missions Aviation Fellowship (MAF) work and assets in Mexico. Pray that all will be used for God's glory. Pray for the pastors in Amoltepec to use the resources they have to reach the lost. Pray that God will guide the steps of Gregorio and Eily toward missions as they have recently joined MAF. Pray for Amos, who has accepted an assignment to serve with MAF in Ecuador. Pray for wisdom for Mike in planning trips to Mexico this year. Pray that God will bless the work of MAF around the world and bring much spiritual fruit for his kingdom.

Rwanda (Africa). Population: 14,569,000 Believers: 26.9%. The closure of thousands of churches in 2024 brought attention to the relationship of the government to religion. This was not persecution so much as the move of the state to exercise regulations upon places of worship. The requirements included matters of safety and hygiene, along with registration, doctrinal statements, and qualifications for pastors. Pray that every congregation might have a place to gather and every Christian would have ample opportunity for fellowship and worship. May the churches with more resources be a blessing to those with few.

APRIL

19

Parkside Heights Church, United States

This month, Peter and Ellie Lindia, along with their infant son, Samuel, will be moving to North Carolina to be near family and to be part of a church plant in Raleigh. Peter has been a pastor at Parkside Heights Church from the very beginning, overseeing music, youth, and college ministries. His wife, Ellie, who works for CRU at Case Western Reserve University, has been a vital part of the college ministry. Parkside Heights is thankful for their investment in the church and asks us to pray for them as they make this transition. Please also pray for the church as they search for someone to replace Peter.

Saint Barthélemy (Caribbean). Population: 11,000 Believers: 2.3%. This island caters to the uber-rich, trading on its sophistication and isolation for its exclusivity. There is little interest in spiritual things. Pray that amid the boutiques, cafés, and villas, there might awaken a hunger for spiritual reality and the opportunity to know God. Pray also that the few churches on the island might minister meaningfully into this unique context. **Saint Helena (Africa).** Population: 5,000 Believers: 8.8%. The Christian heritage of Saint Helena is strong, but islanders committed to faith are decreasing. Most Christians are nominal, and church attendance continues to decline. A critical mass of evangelicals on the islands is needed to generate spiritual momentum.

APRIL

20

Church Plant Training Ministry in Asia

Thank God for the 19th annual Word Conference that was held in February. It unfolded as a powerful reminder that the gospel of grace is not only to be preached—but to be lived with joy. This year's gathering stood as a testimony to the faithful prayers of believers across the world and to God's continued work through his Word. Each session aimed to deepen biblical understanding while strengthening those called to proclaim Christ faithfully. The three-day conference welcomed 508 participants, including pastors, ministry team members, students, interns, and volunteers from across the country. It was a beautiful picture of unity in purpose—servants committed to making Christ known. Pray that all those who were present will remain faithful to their calling despite challenging circumstances.

Saint Kitts & Nevis (Caribbean). Population: 47,000 Believers: 21.7%. There is no lack of churches or other ministries on these islands, but their impact is limited. Pray for the Holy Spirit to revive, empower, and embolden believers for kingdom effectiveness. Pray especially for ministries that draw together the diverse denominations. **Saint Lucia (Caribbean).** Population: 180,000 Believers: 14.5%. The veneer of religion without true faith is a widespread problem—the more historic churches are in significant decline. Living Christianity decreasingly influences much of society as increasing materialism undermines spiritual life. Pray for genuine renewal in the churches and for the spiritual and moral transformation of society.

APRIL

21

Human Coalition (Health for Her Cleveland), United States

Pray for every woman and man wrestling with the weight of an unplanned pregnancy. Pray that God's grace, mercy, and salvation would break through to the clients they serve. Pray that the staff will remain firm in faith and dedicated to God's work, being unshakeable in conviction, consistent in service, and productive, knowing their labor for the Lord is not in vain (1 Cor. 15:58).

Saint Martin (Caribbean). Population: 25,000 Believers: 2.5%. The tropical location and French liberality combine to make this a playground for the most wealthy. Exclusive hotels, clothing-optional beaches, designer-clothing boutiques, and cafés typify the island's culture. There is little room for or interest in a life of service to Christ. Pray that in the midst of this elegant but hedonistic paradise, people might gain a hunger for an eternal heaven.

Saint Pierre & Miquelon (North America). Population: 6,000 Believers: <0.1%. These isolated islands and their people have long been Catholic. Traditions are strong and change has come slowly, despite the economic downturn when the fishing industry all but disappeared. Pray for people to find hope in a living relationship with Christ.

APRIL

22

Jon (& Ruthie), Matt (& Laura) Phenegeer, Goran (& Beth) Tomic, Ambassadors Football, United States

Leading up to the World Cup, Ambassadors Football is excited to be able to come alongside and partner with other organizations, denominations, and churches. In Mexico, one of the host countries, Ambassadors Football Mexico is partnering with Cru Mexico and Nuestro Pan Diario (Our Daily Bread) to offer different resources to churches around the country to help them leverage the event to reach their communities. Pray that these resources will be used in Mexico and around the world, connecting kids to Jesus and envisioning churches to reach into their communities through soccer to share the gospel.

Saint Vincent (Caribbean). Population: 100,000 Believers: 39.1%. St. Vincent is a religious country, but most are not related to God through a personal faith in Jesus Christ. There is a crisis of holiness, lack of spiritual fruit, and growing apathy, especially regarding missions. Pray for revival and for restoration of a biblically based, Spirit-led church. **Samoa (Pacific).** Population: 219,000 Believers: 18.0%. Samoans have been Christian for over a century, and every village has at least one church. But the traditional class structure and pre-Christian cultural standards were not necessarily transformed by the gospel. Pride and politics influence church life too much, and the financial demands on a poorer population are heavy.

APRIL

23

Chris & Leanne Harrington, Japan

Pray for their visa renewal. Recently, they have been hearing of visa challenges for other missionaries, with processing taking longer and receiving a visa shorter than expected. Pray that the process will go smoothly and that the Harrington family will receive another five-year visa, which is the longest possible. Above all, pray the Lord will be glorified in this process.

San Marino (Europe). Population: 34,000 Believers: <0.1%. The Sammarinese are Catholic by tradition and culture, but few practice their faith. San Marino calls itself the "Ancient Land of Liberty," and people have freedom to worship. But evangelism hardly exists. Past outreach by evangelicals resulted in jail or expulsion from the country, so no churches or ministries currently evangelize here. Pray for a new season of true spiritual liberty. **São Tomé & Príncipe (Africa).** Population: 240,000 Believers: 4.2%. Evangelicals are free to minister and do see significant growth. Pray for the development of locally led, culturally relevant congregations with effectively trained Christian leaders. Pray also for local support of national workers and for the launching of an interdenominational training center.

APRIL

24

Andrew & Angie James, Uruguay

On April 24–25, their church is hosting a Simeon Trust Expository Preaching Workshop to encourage and strengthen pastors from across the country in their work. Please pray that the workshop will go well and that it will refresh and equip pastors for the ongoing labor of gospel ministry. They have started a new ESI group in their church. Pray that God will use their study of the Word to strengthen the faith and Christian walks of the participants.

Saudi Arabia (Asia). Population: 34,566,000 Believers: 0.3%. Saudi Arabia is the birthplace and stronghold of Islam. From Mecca, Islam holds influence over billions and touches many cultures worldwide. All Muslims must pray toward Mecca five times daily, and over two million Muslims make the pilgrimage (Hajj) to Mecca every year. Pray that many who seek God might encounter the living Christ.

APRIL

25

Parkside Church Westside, United States

Pray for Parkside Westside's community groups as they continue studying Romans together. Pray for their high school students as they plan and prepare for this summer's mission trip to Serbia. As their congregation seeks to serve the needs of their community, pray for their work with International Friendships; with Building Hope in the City; and with the Cleveland Pregnancy Center. Also, continue to pray for their missionaries working with a minority language group to advance the gospel in all languages. Pray for the safety of Ryan and Samantha S. as they seek to share the gospel with Somalian refugees in Africa and continue to pray for the health and safety of Nathanael Wiles as he works with WGM at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya.

Senegal (Africa). Population: 18,932,000 Believers: 0.2%. Senegal is both open and closed spiritually. The nation enjoys religious freedom and tolerates many faiths, and Senegalese feel proud about this. But few of the Muslim majority have ever come to Christ. Even after long-standing Christian presence and outreach, a spiritual heaviness covers the land. Pray for the spiritual breakthrough for which so many wait.

APRIL

26

Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, Mexico

Pray that God will continue to give Edgar wisdom as he works with the Mexican board of MAF in Mexico. Praise the Lord that their daughter Esther is back in college after dealing with some health issues. Pray for the two ESI groups that Edgar is leading in Oaxaca and for a new group forming in Pachuca. Pray for wisdom and safety for Edgar as he has received threats but desires to continue to encourage the pastors and believers in Amoltepec. Pray that Neri will have wisdom as he facilitates ESI groups in the state of Chiapas. Pray for continued growth of the church plant. Pray for strength for Neri as he continues battling lymphoma and for wisdom to work within his physical limitations. Praise the Lord for the encouraging results in recent blood work. Pray for healing for Neri and for extra strength for Karina during this difficult season in their lives.

Serbia (Europe). Population: 6,689,000 Believers: 0.6%. Evangelicals in Serbia face many difficulties. The recent religion law creates difficulty for all new religious groups, including many new evangelical groups. Protestants have a long history among Hungarians and Slovak minorities but little impact among Serbs and Albanians. Many do not live out their faith. Pray for revival. For groups where ethnic identity determines religious identity, evangelicals can appear to be traitors and part of a religious sect. But through all these challenges, newer churches do grow and minister Christ to others!

APRIL

27

Wes & Nancy Collins, Guatemala, United States

Please pray for Byron, Samuel, Marie, and others in Comitancillo, Guatemala, as they plan celebrations of the finished translations of the whole Bible in the many languages in the area. Pray for good response to the gospel message as they share it and that they will be shining testimonies of Jesus' love and salvation plan for all. Pray that any of Satan's attempts to disrupt will be thwarted. Also, continue to pray for Wes and the hospice staff who care for him. Pray that the Lord will give them words that speak to hearts as they interact with many medical workers. Pray for energy for Nancy as she cares for Wes and comes to grips with all the changes.

Seychelles (Africa). Population: 133,000 Believers: 5.9%. The vast majority of Seychellois claim to be Christian, but evidence of true spiritual transformation seems outweighed by superstition and nominalism. Pray that the Holy Spirit may bring new life evidenced by repentance and sustained fruit.

Solomon Islands (Pacific). Population: 839,000 Believers: 33.3%. Ethnic diversity and a divided geography (six major island groups) create a divided society. These language and culture barriers also inhibit Christian work. Pray that Christianity may take root in each group in a relevant way and can overcome division. Pray for true forgiveness and reconciliation that come only through repentance.

APRIL

28

E & J, North Africa

Pray for the many believers in North Africa who faced tremendous pressure to participate last month during Ramadan (the month of fasting in Islam). Pray that their lost friends and family, who during fasting attempted to draw near to the creator, will find the true God as revealed in Jesus Christ. E and J encourage us to take the opportunities God gives us to love and share Christ with our Muslim neighbors.

Sierra Leone (Africa). Population: 8,820,000 Believers: 3.9%. Sierra Leone continues its effort to move forward and away from its tragic recent history. The horrifying civil war of the 90s and the crippling effect of Ebola in 2014-2015 both reversed efforts at nation-building. Many Christian ministries and aid agencies continue to help the long-term process of meeting people's physical, psychological, and spiritual needs. Praise God for their freedom to minister. Pray for their fruitfulness.

APRIL

29

Parkside Kent, United States

Thank you for praying for Parkside Kent. They are only 18 months old, and a lot has happened in this first season. They are excited to welcome Cate as a new member of their administrative team; they are adding to their facility maintenance team and have started the process of identifying qualified men to begin an elder internship. Please pray that each person in each role will use his or her gifts for God's glory and for the good of his church.

Singapore (Asia). Population: 5,871,000 Believers: 7.8%. Singapore is a strategic center for regional and global Christian mission due to its infrastructure, stability, location, and strong Christian population. Pray that Singapore will be a blessing to the least-evangelized nations and peoples around it and a servant leader that facilitates the emerging missions movement from other Asian nations.

APRIL

30

Bobby & Julie, Central Asia

Pray that God will open a door for the evangelism in central Asia, breaking down barriers to the gospel in society and in the hearts of the people. Their team leader, Cliff, is holding meetings to see how the fitness business can be more effective in their mission. Pray that God will show them how to create gospel opportunities and encourage local believers this spring and summer.

Slovakia (Europe). Population: 5,475,000 Believers: 1.2%. Evangelical congregations are few and small. The growth of recent years has slowed, but there is a new desire to reach out and be more active in church planting. Pray for the quality of spiritual life and for fervor in evangelical churches.

Global prayer requests were taken or adapted from Operation World, 7th Edition (2010), Pray for the World (2015), and www.operationworld.org. Both books are published by InterVarsity Press. All rights reserved.

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Missions: More than Money

Several years ago the elders at Parkside moved from supporting many people with a little bit of funding to supporting a smaller amount of people with a lot of funding. The idea behind this transition was to strengthen the relationship between our church and our missionaries, that we might adequately care for them while on the field and that they might sharpen our desire to see unbelievers reached for Christ.

Practically, this means that our primary approach is now to cover 100% of our missionaries' financial needs so that they can focus their time and energy on their ministry rather than on raising support. When they are home, we provide housing and transportation. When they are away, we speak with them regularly and highlight their activity through various avenues so that our people can stay abreast of their progress and enter into their work by praying for them. Our role does not replace the work of mission agencies, but we seek to provide our missionaries with ongoing care in one place so that they might be most effective for the kingdom.

As detailed in the pages that follow, we still offer partial financial support to some of the missionaries who we had been partnering with before the transition, as well as some other organizations and individuals.

Learn more about our missionaries and locate contact information for them at www.parksidechurch.com/missions.

Full Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

North Africa	E & J
Japan	Chris & Leanne Harrington
Uruguay	Andrew & Angie James
Africa/Europe/The Americas	Kep & Debbie James
Central Asia	Bobby & Julie
United States	J & A

Partial Financial Support of Parkside Missionaries

Peru/United States	Mark & Patti Bean
Guatemala/United States	Wes & Nancy Collins
Mexico/United States	Mike & Joan Ross

Financial Support of Nationals

Bolivia & Around the World

- Twenty Bolivians serve as Pastoral Assistants (PAs), a pastor-in-training role. The PAs receive differing levels of support from Parkside Church depending on how long they have been involved and how they are serving.
- Equipping Servants International (ESI) is a three-year, part-time course designed to teach people how to think and live biblically. ESI has had 3,350 graduates since 2002, and has 3,200 active participants in 270 groups meeting in 35 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, England, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Rwanda, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tanzania, Uganda, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Parkside Church has assisted and continues to assist in providing participants with the required materials.

Mexico

- Two Mexican pastors, Edgar (& Lety) Rivera and Neri (& Karina) Rivera, receive partial financial support from Parkside. They are currently teaching 75 Mexicans to think and live biblically through the Equipping Servants International (ESI) program in Oaxaca, Chiapas, and Tapachula.

South Asia

- Twenty full-time church planting missionaries were trained and sent out, fully supported by Parkside Church.
- Twelve students are enrolled in a 9-month, full-time preaching training course, fully supported by Parkside Church.

South Africa

- Johannes (& Mathapelo) Thaele, a South African pastor working full time with students in the farm schools, local church, and university in Bloemfontein, receives full financial support from Parkside Church.

Financial Support to Mission Partners and Local Churches

Fieldstone Counseling
Hope for Glasgow
Human Coalition Cleveland
The City Mission
Truth For Life

Parkside Church Westside
Parkside Green
Parkside Heights Church
Parkside Kent
Scranton Road Bible Church
Shoreline Church

Financial Support to Mission Individuals

Emily (& Blake) Ackerson
Matt (& Laura) Pheneger
Goran (& Beth) Tomic

Jon (& Ruthie)
Ruth (& Artis) Powell

Parkside Church funding of Missions in 2024: \$3,421,410

Get Involved

in a short-term missions trip

South Africa Trip

Vacation Bible Camp

Trip Dates: June 26-July 5, 2026

To find out more about joining a future short-term team, please contact the church office at 440.543.1212 or visit parksidechurch.com/missions.



PARKSIDE
CHURCH

To see unbelieving people become
committed followers of Jesus Christ.