

## February Global Prayer and Praise Guide



*Thursday/February 1* - Personal and church financial commitments encourage and help continue the holistic work of the FMC **around the world**. If you and/or your church has already done this, might you pray today for those who have not yet taken this step. CSA's provide funding for missionaries appointed by FMC USA, and MSA's fund national leaders, provide discipleship materials, and in general help grow the church abroad. Pastors in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries often need funds just to visit the churches they serve. May 2018 be a year of generous giving from the FMC USA!



*Friday/February 2* - Creative Access Nurse Linda tells how children in the **Middle East** have had their childhood stolen as they've seen firsthand the atrocities committed by ISIS and then had to flee their homeland. Now living in refugee camps with substandard conditions, the older children have to work 6 days a week. She and her husband Dr. Ken offer schooling to them on their one day off hoping to give back some of the youth they have missed and offering eternal life as opportunities are presented.



*Saturday/February 3* - One of WMI's special projects will initiate a women's literacy program in the state of Assam in **Northeast India** teaching the women of the Santal tribe where only about 10% of women can read and write. It is projected that 1,000 women will learn sufficient skills that they will then be able to read their Bibles. Approximately 20 literacy centers are planned with classes to be held two hours a day, 5 days a week. Goal: \$2,464



*Sunday/February 4* - Darin and Jill Land thank God and their prayer team as they have finally received their visa-stamped passports and ID cards. Although their home base is the **Philippines**, they also travel to other Asian countries helping develop leadership. On a recent trip to **Thailand**, they met with leaders from 5 Asian countries. A fun coincidence there was seeing Supt. Matt Whitehead, the main speaker who had been Darin's babysitter, and also visiting Missionary Debbie Vic who had been Jill's babysitter. They visited a church in Bangkok Debbie started 15 years ago that now has an attendance of 200, and they met a woman who started attending and came to Christ because Debbie, a foreigner, had smiled at her.



*Monday/February 5* - Phyllis Sortor continues her work providing grazing land and schools with Christian teachers for the Fulani people of **Nigeria**. They are a nomadic Muslim tribe, many of whose children have not had access to education and whose cattle—their only means of livelihood—have often been stolen. At times her efforts have been thwarted; yet in her most recent letter she reports excellent results: *Several men said that in all their lifetime, nothing like this has ever happened before. They said God had sent me here to them, when they needed me most. At the PTA meeting they announced that they were already molding blocks, at their own expense, to build another classroom building! I'm so happy that large portions of their grazing land will be returned to them. This is a huge answer to prayer.*



*Tuesday/February 6* - The FM Church in Latin America has adopted the Community Church Planting model to expand the reach of the Gospel and to prepare pastors for ministry. Pictured are Area Director Delia Nüesch-Olver, Associate Director Paul Olver and fellow-missionary, Glenn Lorenz with Ricardo Gomez (right) mapping out CCP's responsibilities. Implementing this will necessitate the reduction of Ricardo's work load at the Seminario Bíblico de **Colombia** where he will teach only the pastoral/practical theology classes and focus on church planting.

*Wednesday/February 7* - In 1994 Ricardo and Maria Elena Guerrero planted a church in Carmen de Areco, **Argentina**, not far from Buenos Aires. The church now has almost 600 members, with a far-reaching ministry and a number of satellite congregations. Over 50 street kids have been adopted over the years giving them food, housing and education. Some now serve as leaders in the church and are studying in the Bible institute.



*Thursday/February 8* - Missionaries to **Bulgaria**, Chad and Hollie Wells report a great year for the work there. The Bulgarian nationals have stepped up in marvelous ways to run the ministry, and the Wells count it a real privilege to have experienced acclimating themselves to living in Eastern Europe away from family and friends in the US. However, with so much good work being done now by Bulgarian nationals, they sense the Holy Spirit's nudge to serve in a new location where they can begin church planting. So far they have identified 4 countries where they have contacts, and they ask prayer for the clarification of God's next step as they want to be good stewards of the gifts the Lord has given them and the finances supplied by their partners.

*Friday/February 9* - After Area Director Dr. Delia Nüesch-Olver and Associate Director Dr. Paul Olver spent 3 weeks in **Argentina**, they said to each other, "That was one of our best ministry trips ever!" Here at the annual meeting Delia (far right) is accepting some of the 21 ministerial candidates.



*Saturday/February 10* - May we regularly pray for our missionaries' children. Here is a note from Jacob Clemente whose family serves in **Taiwan**: *So I went on the 7th grade Impact trip, and my group went on a three hour hike. The next day, we killed a pig and gutted it and ate it, but it was cooked by the managers. We also made necklaces out of beads, and we learned that the beads you choose describe*

*who you are. I chose light blue, which means normal person, and white, which means courage. So I'm a normal person with courage. The next day we learned about snakes, and we saw the most venomous snake in Taiwan. This trip taught us that life is no walk in the park. There are struggles that take more than three hours to shatter and goals that take even more than that to reach, but you learn stuff that helps you. I guess that was pretty deep there. Still, a good way to end this reflection. Thanks for reading this! Jacob*



*Sunday/February 11 - Carmen Clemente (see her brother's note above) just turned 16 and shares these reflections: [On my birthday] I was feeling really reflective . . . Just the other day I was holding my baby brother in my arms. Just the other day I arrived in the classroom of my first day of high school, and I remember sitting there crying because I realized that I was growing up, and there's this level of maturity expected from me. Sometimes I imagine what life is like as an adult and I miss running around in the playground and wanting to be a mermaid astronaut. But now, things are different. Growing up is pretty scary to me so I've learned how to keep my childish side, while balancing it out with this new, older side of me that I'm still getting used to and I'm still getting to know. Carmen*



*Monday/February 12 - David and Yeya Lopez have served for nearly a year now as national missionaries in **Peru** where they are involved in community church planting. Thankful to God for having called them to this ministry, each day they see transformed lives, people growing in their faith, and opportunities to support those who are in need. A new local church is about to be born in the city of Lima, as well as new house churches. Their daughter Valery (right) is receiving treatment so she can recover good vision in her left eye due to an amblyopia problem.*



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*Tuesday/February 13 - Bruce Cromwell, a pastor in Lansing, Michigan, has led his church in an outreach to a number of Nepalese immigrants in his city. This was very successful, but it didn't stop there. Congregations in Tennessee, North Dakota, Ohio and Georgia have also done this, and perhaps most importantly, these who have newfound faith in Jesus have reached out to their families in **Nepal** where the FMC is now experiencing rapid growth.*



*Wednesday/February 14 - János is a recovering alcoholic, homeless, and a believer. He is also very smart, funny, and clever. But because of his alcoholism he lost his job, his home, and his family. He now lives in a shelter and has full-time work there doing cleaning and maintenance. He is on a good path right now, but needs daily prayer for the strength to resist the temptation of taking "just one" drink. Pastor Péter from the Budapest, **Hungary** FMC has spent many hours counseling with János over the years, even searching him out on the streets when he has fallen "off the wagon."*



*Thursday/February 15 - News from Al and Diane Mellinger regarding plans for the new year in **Bulgaria**: The Sweets will be relocating to Kyustendil from Petrich to help with the girls' home and the hosting of groups that come to serve. Al will be stepping down as co-pastor of the Petrich church, and as the denominational leader, he will be better able to oversee the 8 churches and the 10 additional church plants now in movement there. They are planning a family camp with their churches this summer which will require a great deal of coordination. Livelihood groups are being expanded with new products like sewing and woodworking. The safe house is being remodeled with the indoor job of wiring being done this winter and plans to have it open by late summer. Their area director, David Carr, has stepped down giving Josh*

Fajardo, AD for southern Europe, this additional responsibility.



*Friday/February 16 - Pastor Rami was a Palestinian who after becoming a believer, has followed God's call to plant a church in a refugee camp in **Jordan** started in 1967 for Palestinians displaced by the Arab/Israeli War. His church now reaches out to Palestinians, Iraqis, Syrians and Jordanians and has given what Pastor Rami calls a "big chance to share the gospel." Leaders like Rami put the 'impact' in Impact Middle East.*



*Saturday/February 17 - Ricardo Gomez, (far right) represented the seminary at the ordination service of Harold and Dorildy, good friends of the Gomez family since they have been neighbors for 4 years while the couple attended the Seminario Biblico de **Colombia** where Ricardo teaches theology. They will miss them as neighbors, but the primary purpose in Latin America is to prepare people for church leadership and send them out. Ricardo says, "The seminary provided them with the tools for ministry, but it is the Holy Spirit who will bring about the fruit."*



*Sunday/February 18 - Thom and Sherry Cahill serve in **Kenya** and are grateful that God has supplied their need for a vehicle so they can travel to churches, the Bible School, the ICCM boys high school and other meetings more easily. First, however, they are praying for the quick processing of Thom's alien card which is needed to*



*register the car and for Sherry to be able to renew her Visa.*



*Monday/February 19 - 1 Timothy 2:2+ **First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be offered on behalf of all men for kings and all those in authority, so that we may lead tranquil and quiet lives.*** Canada-Trudeau, Puerto Rico-Roselló, Honduras-Hernández, Israel-Netanyahu (left), Egypt-al Sisi, China-Xi Jinping, North Korea-Kim Jung Un, Nigeria-Buhari (right), Syria-al Assad, Kenya-Kenyatta. And if you follow world news, you know that the US is certainly not the only country where presidential elections have caused civil disturbances –much more violent than here.



*Tuesday/February 20 - Although Phyllis Sortor is seeing some success for the rights of Fulani herdsmen in **Nigeria**, this news report updated January 16 is troubling: *Tensions have been exacerbated because the tripling of Nigeria's population since independence in 1960 has reduced land area both for peasant farming and cattle grazing causing medium-scale military wars between the two. The Benue state government has accused Fulani herdsmen of responsibility for a recent spate of killings of farmers to protest a Nov. 1 anti-open grazing law passed in the central farming state. Yet the Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria says more than 1,000 Fulanis were killed and 2 million cattle lost in the conflict since June last year. May God protect Phyllis, continue to bless her work, and bring many of the Fulani to a living and loving faith in Jesus despite this conflict.**



*Wednesday/February 21* - For the first time in the history of **Portugal** a President of the Republic visited an evangelical church. Mr. President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa attended an evangelical service on Christmas Eve and gave a tremendous witness over multiple TV channels. One of his statements said, "I leave this meeting different, more spiritually and emotionally rich," and added, "It is the first time that a President attended an evangelical service . . . Many people don't know, but there are more than 400,000 evangelicals in Portugal!"



*Thursday/February 22* - Eduardo and Cindi Angelo (left) report the multiplication of cell groups from their growing church in Corroios, **Portugal**. Thirty children and 30 young people are helping to swell their attendance to well over 100 with many young couples. Also, the church plant begun last year in the center of Lisbon continues to grow. New youth pastors Santiago and Laysse Magalhaes (right) serve there with the Angelos and plan to take the church full-time within the next two years. Friends of the Angelos



who pastor a non-denominational church are also considering affiliation with the FMC.



*Friday/February 23* - This **Asian** family's children attend an ICCM school as the Father believed in its values and discipline. When he died two years ago, the Mother was unable to support her family alone. The oldest daughter began attending church and then invited the local pastor to visit her mother. People began praying for their needs, and slowly Mom started attending church with her children. Recently she testified, "After my

husband's death nobody cared for us. Even my relatives abandoned us. It is only the church of the Lord Jesus that stood with us. Now I have confidence in my life after accepting Jesus."



*Saturday/February 24* - The ICCM **Nigerian** students (left) are standing behind a table that holds a vehicle they built. They want to be engineers. Others (middle) dream of being doctors or nurses or perhaps lawyers or judges. But these (right) want to be comedians/entertainers. Their teachers help them to dream and learn so that their dreams can come true.



*Sunday/February 25* - What have God's people done for years? Been servants of the Lord with cross-cultural training and a love for people of all cultures prepared with skills to adapt to the ways of a culture not their own. Wesley Missionary Institute in Togo, now in its first session, aims to raise up these kinds of workers as FM churches expand in **Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria** and **Cameroon** with a need for more workers in this ever-ripening harvest field.



*Monday/February 26* - Kathy Gaulton leads a ministry called Heavenly Treasures and has recently become involved with Middle East refugees who have fled their homes and their livelihood. Based in **Jordan**, the ministry gives refugees the materials they need so they can use their skills to make beautiful things like the mosaics pictured here. The symbol is the Arabic letter “N” standing for Nazarene.  
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*Tuesday/February 27* - People in Latin America are generally expressive, and the culture of genuine love, service, and passionate worship in the **Argentina** churches is no exception. Pastor Horvath and Kurt Haney (far left) from the Waypoint Church in Clarkston MI traveled to Argentina with Delia and Paul Olver (far right-



No, that is not Delia with the hat!) to see firsthand the wonderful return on their investment in the Argentinian churches over the past 10 years. The district has at least tripled numerically while joyfully serving Jesus.



*Wednesday/February 28* -

Did you know that the weekly email called *Tuesday's Child* from ICCM is also published in Chinese so that the more than 300

sponsors in **Taiwan** can keep up with ICCM's news? Did you know that 20,000 children are currently being sponsored in over 30 countries? We all know that through education, meals, clothing and basic medical care, children in need have an opportunity for a better life. For just one dollar a day a child's life can be changed forever, and many have been thanks to ICCM and its sponsors!

