



Evangelical Friends Mission

November 2018 Prayer Letter

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Our purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.



We are so thankful for all the many blessings God has given us and the many ways He provides. Often for us, His provision looks like strength and wisdom to face the challenges of everyday life. We are learning more and more what it looks like to obey God, even when sometimes what He asks of us doesn't make sense from our standpoint.

Some days this looks like going to a friend's house for dinner, who is making us a special dish, even though our stomachs are protesting eating anything (and the food doesn't come until after our kids' bedtime). Sometimes it looks like inviting the little girls to come in to play, even though we were just sitting down for dinner. Or maybe it looks like trying to figure out if we should go on a four-hour trip with a friend the next

morning after being asked at 9 o'clock at night. And some days it is getting a phone call from another foreign worker who isn't being allowed to exit the country because of a new law that all foreigners need to navigate but are just finding out about! Obedience looks so different every day. We feel like this life that we live is constantly throwing us curve balls, loops, or sometimes broken roads because of a massive rainstorm. But, we are so thankful that we don't have to know ahead of time, or figure out on our own, which way to turn, which road to take, or even the amount of vehicle changing that the road will demand. We praise God for being with us each step of the way, for leading us and us giving what we need when we need it...not a moment too soon, or a moment too late. He is such a good God!

We have had a good and busy last few months. It has been a good time in our village and living life with those around us. We feel more and more part of this community and are so thankful that they continue to think of us as part of their family! Just a few weeks ago we were going to take a picture of our kids with the landlord's mother (they call her grandma and she calls them grandkids), and before the picture she went and rounded up the rest of her grandkids to have them all in the same picture. For us, it was a special moment and showed us just how much she cared to have all of the children she calls grandkids in one picture with her. God continues to work here, and we are trusting and obeying in the small steps that we get to take daily to bring the Good News of Jesus!



M. and K. L.

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- That the restructuring process for the EFM Board is making good progress. There are currently 17 members on the board. It will likely not be much bigger than that. Over half of the board members have served on the board before. All of the regions/yearly meetings of Evangelical Friends Church-North America have at least two members on the board.
- For EFM's new website and new logo. Many thanks go to Kimberly Mer and Lori Anderson who led this effort.

Please Pray...

- For Lori Anderson, our Director of Operations, as she battles cancer for the second time in her life. She is on medical leave from EFM and is receiving intensive treatment. Please keep her family in prayer as well, which includes Kathi Perry, her sister.
- For the EFM Board as it meets in Wichita, Kansas, on November 1 and 2. The board has been through a restructuring process since June of this year and there are quite a few people who are new to the EFM Board that will be at these meetings. The primary focus of the meetings will be determining how the restructured board will function.
- For local churches, yearly meetings, and organizations like ours, this is an important time of year financially-speaking. We all depend on generous giving in November and December to end the year in good financial shape. This is certainly true of EFM.

Kathi Perry

Serving in Ireland (EFM)

Praise God...

- My knee continues to heal, and I am thankful every day for improvements in my mobility, stamina, and balance.
- The Holy Spirit is working through our time of Bible Study each week, and it is evident in the conversation and commitment of each one present.
- Thankful for the wonderful families that make up the "Little Friends" community, and how they contribute to the work I do.

Please Pray...

- For my sister, Lori Anderson, whose breast cancer has returned. Pray for effective treatment, and for family as we walk this road together.
- Continue to pray for clarity working through the new visa regulations, and for Molly Morton, while she waits...
- I will be traveling to California to spend time with family a couple of times in the next months. Please pray for the wonderful people here in Ireland, who have offered to run groups, and look after things while I am away. I am so thankful for the love and care they show me.

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj

Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- Asha and Anita completed the first training for women in Chapur for arts and crafts skills and tailoring. They also gave CHE lessons on Women's cycle of Life (CHE-WCL) to the women from different churches in that town.
- For the birth of a baby girl, Joanna, to Janak and Thiru in October. Pray that Suzanna gets over her loneliness and adjusts to having a little sister around now.
- Gokarna our CHE Trainer has also been appointed as the Associate pastor of Jhurjhure Friends Church in Chitwan. He has long years of experience in the CHE ministry and has trained many people to be effective leaders in their communities through this training.

Please Pray...

- Our 2nd batch of 15 leaders selected from communities and churches in West Nepal for the CHE Discipleship Training which begins in Nov.- Dec. 2018. These leaders will be taken through lessons in Discipleship/CHE lessons on transformation and Small Business Development leading to their becoming self-supported in a 4-part training and disbursement of Micro-loans, on successfully completing the course in the due time.
- The leaders from Far West Nepal who underwent training as the first batch 2017-18, and now have started small businesses and are making steady progress in business of their choice and become role-models in their community as pastors / leaders.
- For the six groups (of 12 students each) in Salyan and 4 groups in Chitwan who are currently undergoing the non-Formal Adult Education/Learning process. Two of these groups will be "graduating" in mid-November and will be presented with Bibles and Song Books to use in their family prayer and church service. Please pray for Jamuna as she supervises the progress of these groups and must walk long distances on the hill sides of Salyan to get to all the groups.

From Russ and Sarah Badgley

Serving in Ecuador (EFM)

Praise God...

- After 9 months of fatigue and illness, Joe is finally moving toward healing from a long-term virus and being a kid again. So glad to finally have recovery in progress!
- Emma's knee continues to improve, and she is regaining use and range of motion since her meniscus and ACL surgery.
- For God's continued provision through many believers and sustaining us through this difficult season.

Please Pray...

- Please continue to pray for Matthew. He has genetic testing to complete that will give more info, one way or another. Pray for wisdom and clarity.
- Pray Joe continues to recover from the virus.

From M. and K. L.

Serving in northern India (EFM)

Praise God...

- That our relationships continue to deepen.
- That the Lord provides daily what we need.
- We have been blessed to have family come visit us.

Please Pray...

- For good health and safety for our family, especially the kids.
- For our neighbors to continue to be softened toward the Lord.
- For wisdom and discernment with all of our relationships as well as just living within this culture.

From Dave and Cindy Aufrance

Serving in Hong Kong (EFC-ER)

Praise God...

- For the good anniversary celebration of the 1st anniversary of RiverGrace's independence. After a year of transitions, God is opening the door to new ways of outreach.

Please Pray...

- Thanks for your prayer on behalf of my heart. Things have been stable for the last few months and I'm functioning normally. The tear in my upper aorta has healed from the tear that happened in February, however they are watching my descending aorta which is slightly larger than before. No intervention is necessary at this time, but they'll do a CT scan again in a few months.
- For RiverGrace as we prepare our 2019 plans. We need God's direction for the church.

From EFC-Nepal

Praise God...

- For our Nawalparasi Leadership Seminar at Hotel Diyali, Kawasoti, Nawalparasi. We invited a few selected leaders from all Friends Churches in Nawalparasi and all executive members were present.
- For the Chitwan Regional Yearly meeting where 500 members attended, six leaders were ordained as associate pastors, and three were recorded as pastors.
- For the Bible Panorama Teacher's Special Training October 8-11 at Kathmandu Evangelical Friends Church. There were 24 Evangelical Friends pastors from all over Nepal Evangelical Friends Churches in attendance.

Please Pray...

- For the National Youth Conference November 6-8 in Rajahar, Nawalparasi.
- For the National Women Conference November 19-20 in Bhandara, Chitwan.
- For the second session of the Bible Panorama Teacher's Special Training December 10-13 at Kathmandu Evangelical Friends Church.

From B. and D. A.

Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- For strong pastors in spite of constant attacks from the enemy.

Please Pray...

- For our evangelistic meeting during the biggest Hindu festival in October.

From Roy and Jinky Twaddell

Serving in the Philippines (EFM)

Praise God...

- We successfully completed our first semester of FEAST (nine Students) and ESL (21 students) classes. We had an end of semester celebration for the children with games, food, candy and grades! We also were met by the Vice Chairwoman of the community who expressed the community's great appreciation for helping with the children. Next year they even promised to give us a classroom to use. PTL!
- We were able to participate in a two-day retreat and planning meeting with the PEFIM Board of Elders. We not only finished the budget for 2019 but are in the final phase of finishing our new Faith and Practice. It was a great move of God in this meeting as hearts were brought together in unity.
- After two and a half months of running around to different agencies we finally have the EFM van registered!

Please Pray...

- For the start of our new FEAST and ESL semesters on Nov. 9-10. We will only offer 4 courses in FEAST, but plan to make it up in a Summer session. For the final curriculum plan of ESL. It would be great to see some of our students make it to Level 2 English by the end of the school year in March.
- For Ptr Rannie, Ptr Chito and Brother Alan. I supervise these three Pastors in our newly developed Apprentice Recording program. They must work on courses, all in Tagalog and read in English Fox's Journal and Barclay's Apology as part of the process. So far it is going well. Pray they learn much from the Holy Spirit and that I will have God's wisdom in sharing my life with them.
- For our new budget for 2019. We are asking for a modest increase to our field budget and personal package. Please pray for new Ministry Partners in our ministry.

From Voicu and Ana Marian Serving in Romania (EFC-ER)

Praise God...

- For a wonderful family vacation with our children. Opportunity to share the gospel and our testimony with a retired couple during the trip.
- For our church in Sibiu, signs of spiritual growth, deliverance in people's lives, manifestations of agape love.
- That several junior high girls who come for English but are also open to Bible teaching.

Please Pray...

- For our students to continue to come and to have their eyes and hearts open to Jesus; for their families to uphold godly standards. Safety in the Shop and creativity for Voicu with brand new and younger students.
- For Cristian (former student) and Loredana, who invited us to their wedding; for Cristi to remember what he's learned in years of youth group and apply it in his marriage.
- For God's clear direction for our children, (including spiritual ones who've stayed in touch) in matters of relationships and career.

From David Thomas EFM Whole-Life Discipleship

Praise God (Thailand)...

- For Ben Kibbe, Solomon, Yosapa, Charee and Pla. Praise God for progress in preparing their two teams (led by Solomon and Yosapa) and especially for their coming up with some excellent team purpose statements which help them better understand their task of discipling the communities. The Holy Spirit is leading them to focus their Discipling for Development ministry in for the next four years.

Please Pray (Thailand)...

- For God's favor and blessing to rest on these leaders as they implement their plans to continue preparing their teams and as together they seek Holy Spirit's guidance in exploring and selecting the communities he will lead them to.

Praise God (Rwanda)...

- For growing excitement for whole-life discipleship among Friends Church leaders in Burundi and in DR Congo (Goma and Uvira), and for personal testimonies of transformation among these leaders. This is the fruit we want to see from seeds planted in the D for D Foundations workshops our Rwandan D for D leaders facilitated earlier this year.
- For a great team of D for D national leaders in Augustin Simparinka, Gerard, Tertullien and Brad Carpenter! Praise God for many other leaders these men are investing in. Thank God for the gifts they have, for their maturity and growth in Christ, for their ministry

experience, and for the many opportunities they have to invest in and equip other leaders.

Please Pray (Rwanda)...

- For the establishment of disciple-making movements in Rwanda, Burundi and in DR Congo (Goma, and Uvira)! May God's Kingdom come, and his will be done in the lives of these leaders, their families, their churches and in their communities!
- For David Thomas and Brendan Steinacher on their coaching trip to Rwanda October 31 – November 14 (and especially for the November 5 – 9 coaching days with our four Rwandan D for D leaders). Pray for our Rwandan D for D leaders to have a clear focus, excellent time management, freedom to delegate, growth in coaching skills, and for wisdom to empower other leaders releasing all into greater ministry. Pray for rest, strength, protection and God's favor to rest on them!

Praise God (Cambodia)...

- For the Swards the Radcliffs, Elise Paty, and the Hernandez family with EFC-SW in Cambodia, and for their desire to plant whole-life, disciple-making, church-planting, community-transforming movements among the people groups they serve.

Please Pray (Cambodia)...

- For God's favor and blessing to rest on Robert and Sara Radcliff as they serve in Battambang. Pray for God's wisdom in working with their Cambodian colleagues and pray for great relationships with everyone they come in contact with!
- Pray for the Sward family and for Elise as they settle into life in Stueng Treng (Northern Cambodia). Pray for favor and for new relationships to be built and for all the necessary details of living in a new place to come together well for them. Pray for a growing vision of what Holy Spirit wants to do with them there.