



Evangelical Friends Mission

September 2019 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.

Construction Zone by David and Tricia Howell

Tis the season for orange traffic cones, barriers, diversions in place, stop and go signs, and men in high visibility jackets to dot the landscape. Construction is in full swing.

We live in a beautiful little town on the seafront called Wicklow. A place filled with coffee shops, small businesses and the like. Normally I love sitting outside, drinking my coffee, and chatting with people as they walk by. Today as I write this, I am sitting outside one of the coffee shops and it is a different experience all together. It is loud and dirty and chaotic. When the construction zone enters, it loses its charm for sure. However...it is necessary. Without the upgrades or repairs or preventative maintenance, we would be in for serious peril down the road.



In many ways, life mirrors this scene. It takes a time of a construction zone in our lives for the needed work to be done. They can be messy and ugly as things are dug up and revealed. They can be hard times or confusing times, but they are necessary. They require a great amount of patience as the work, slow as it may seem, is carried out. And in the end, it will all be worth it.

Recently, I have been thinking about our ministry and our friends who have gone through tumultuous construction periods in their lives. These friends have faced addictions, relationship problems, deep wounds, and so many other issues that have caused a deep spiritual brokenness. As we struggle through these times with each of them, we hold fast to the promises of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17 *"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"* What a celebration it is to see the brokenness repaired and the new life appearing. The cones are gone. The roads are clear. And the peace has returned. But God is not done here. As new cones begin to pop up in other friend's lives, we pray that they too may find the same peace in Jesus Christ. Would you please join us in this prayer?

Praise God...

- For relationships that encourage and bless us, both from Ireland and the US.
- For the lives that have been transformed through the ministry of EFM-Ireland.
- For the opportunities to minister and share Jesus with people who have graciously invited us in.

Please Pray...

- As the new school year begins, life picks up speed, both personally and in ministry. Pray for Jonathan who starts university in Dublin. Pray for Moriah as she starts 5th year (her Junior year). Pray for us as we volunteer in the schools and begin a new year of working with teenagers.
- Pray for our Visa and Citizenship process. We are waiting to hear back in relation to our current visa and for our application for citizenship for Tricia. Please pray that we will be granted favor to stay and continue to serve.
- Pray for our ministry among those we are blessed to know. Our prayer is that they will know Jesus Christ as their Lord and the love and peace that this brings.

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- For the opportunities some of us had to vacation with our families and get a little rest.
- For the strength and wisdom the Lord gives each day for our never-ending to-do lists!

Please Pray...

- For Dan Cammack and Matthew Zoller as they work on implementing the first Field Support Team (FST) for EFM. An FST is a group of five to six volunteers who help support an EFM field or ministry in the areas of member care, prayer, strategy, finances, communication, and so on.
- For the whole staff as we gather in Wichita, Kansas, on September 13 and 14 for a retreat. Pray for the relationship-building, evaluating, dreaming, and planning that will take place.
- EFM belongs to a network of like-minded missions agencies called Missio-Nexus and they have their annual conference in September. Matt Macy and Matthew Zoller will be going to Orlando, Florida on behalf of EFM.

From Dave and Cindy Aufrance Serving in Hong Kong (EFC-ER)

Praise God...

- For those that want to make a public testimony of water baptism in November. Pray that they will grow in the Lord during these months.

Please Pray...

- Pastor Tommy is now the acting minister in charge of RiverGrace. Pray that the Lord will give him wisdom and use him as we close out our time in Hong Kong at the end of June next year.
- For Anahi, a Friends young lady from Bolivia. She is seeking the Lord for wisdom about coming to Hong Kong next year to work with the growing number of Spanish speakers.
- For the situation in Hong Kong which is becoming more serious with protests against the unresponsive government to the fears people are losing the freedoms they have enjoyed. At first, they were peaceful, now they are getting more violent. Pray for the government and for the people to remain peaceful.

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

Praise God...

- We are grateful for this time with our kids; being a family in Christ.
- For being able to share God's message with joy; for his grace and work in the people of Romania.
- For a time to visit churches; an opportunity to focus on the lives of our American brothers and sisters.

Please Pray...

- The Lord's leading in the upcoming years; clarity and wisdom in transition.
- God's perfect will and direction for John and Christina's lives.
- The youth and children in our two villages in Romania; good reuniting when we return and a fresh desire to know God.

From Roy and Jinky Twaddell Serving in The Philippines (EFM)

Praise God...

- We had nine students in our first FEAST Mobile Class in Tabon Palawan, seven from Tabon Evangelical Friends Church, and two from Tagnipa Evangelical Friends Church. It was a great time of teaching, fellowship, and growing in the Lord together!
- Our outreach training for Tagnipa also went very well. We shared on how to reach out to the whole the community. There are currently six young people involved. Pastor Rannie is taking the lead with this group.
- For Christopher and Nathyld's formal wedding. We will have family (from both sides) from four countries gathering to celebrate.

Please Pray...

- For our 2020 annual planning in October. This will be a joint planning session with PEFIM as we coordinate our work with Outreaches in Purok Uno and Tagnipa and of course FEAST. Please pray for wisdom and God's leading in our continued ministry relationship with PEFIM.
- We need at least one new teacher in Purok Uno and wisdom on what is the next step for this community. For Tagnipa, we ask you pray that God shows us the right activities for the work there. Tagnipa has limited electricity and is a fishing community. With FEAST we are developing our delivery system for the Mobile Class Sessions. Essentially, we are providing 3-4 days of intensive classroom teaching and the students then finish their coursework by reading and completing a workbook in Tagalog. One of our main problems is that we need the students to meet in their local churches for prayer and discussions once a month.
- For funding of our FEAST Classroom expansion. Our residential classroom is in the PEFIM Guesthouse and we have already out grown it. See the [EFM Project Page](#) for more details.

From Rupak and Pramila Tamang Serving in Bhutan (EFM)

Praise God...

- For the 14 from Batch Bible School who successfully completed courses and one student who made a public testimony of water baptism.
- For the boys who got a good result in grade 12 half yearly exam. We prayed and fasted over three months.
- That one of our cell church members, brother Diliram, got a cancer operation from Kolkata hospital successfully.

Please Pray...

- We are seeking a new house for our training center and rent will start October 1.
- For Phuntsholing, a new cell. They are still struggling to find a house in town.
- For our cell churches to grow well.

From Molly Morton
Preparing to Qualify for a Minister of Religion Visa for Ireland (EFM)

Praise God...

- I've started online graduate studies at Barclay College for a Master's in Pastoral Studies. I'm encouraged by classmates and instructor that this is the right next step for me.
- I've begun participating in a The Lab through North County Project, which is an intentional learning community where emerging leaders in the church experience deep relationships, open conversations, intentional spiritual formation, and hands-on ministry. I'm excited to learn from Alan and Barb Amavisca and many other facilitators.
- My sponsoring church in Ireland has graciously agreed to walk this new road with me towards visa qualification. They have offered prayer, a point person from their board, and encouragement. Praise God for this new relationship.

Please Pray...

- BALANCE! I am anxious about balancing these new opportunities and getting as much as I can out of each learning experience. Please pray for time management, rest, and focus.
- That I remain intentional about my friendships and family relationship during my studies. Pray that I do not isolate myself away from them in service of my studies.
- Please continuing praying for my EFM teammates in Ireland as school begins and their ministries begin again. Pray for good conversations, good rest, and good focus.

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj
Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- For the Ashok & Binda family and the growth of Maidha Friends Fellowship. Kedar continues to help lead the meetings and worship services, along with doing first-aid training in the community.

Please Pray...

- For the graduation program of sewing skill training, which will be held in Cha'pur this month. Two of them are Mushars who were provided with new machines and the rest were given new machines at 50% cost. Pray for Asha Rai and Suleman as they organize all this work and reach out to non-believers among this batch of trainees.
- For the newly formed CHE Committee (Eden CHE Committee) at Bhawanipur (in Cha'pur), which will be under the leadership of Pastor Ramesh Adhikari.
- For the Mushar project of Jugauliya and the House fellowship in Santapur (Cha'pur). Please pray for Musahar families and for our new contact, Rakesh Majhi of Khoriya Tola, that he would know Christ.
- For the Dalit children (Raidas/Chamars) of Nimkothia village in Bardia as we were able to approach the primary school authorities and make efforts to begin a Children CHE program, which also provides a mid-day meal among the kids from July 2019.
- For Arun and Babli as they continue their work in Aurahi (Janakpur) village among the Musahar children by providing free tuition and mid-day meal. Arun, who is a health worker, has been treating many snake bite cases during the monsoon season with locally available aids and medicines.

From A. and M. A.
Serving in Bangladesh (EFM)

Praise God...

- Our elder son has not been affected either by dingo fever or a urine infection. His medical report is satisfactory, and we are so grateful to him for healing him so quickly.
- The Lord has provided a pastor for the North Bengal. It has a great challenge to work in North Bengal for him. Pray that he and his wife would work hard to make disciples and strengthen local churches.
- The flood situation is getting better. People are now returning their homes. Thanks for his protection.

Please Pray...

- That we may get visa for all of our four family members. Pray that our time in USA would be very fruitful. Our goal is to report to the partnering churches and friends about God's work in Bangladesh through Friends ministry and to challenge many friends to be his partner in his harvest field in Bangladesh.
- That God would provide more evangelists for opening church plantation ministry in various places in Bangladesh.
- That many non-believers come to Christ this year and have public declaration.

From B. and D. A.
Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- Debbie has a cyst in the pancreas. We praise the Lord that it is not cancerous.
- We thank the Lord that the monsoon rains didn't cause lots of damage.

Please Pray...

- Pray for Debbie. Her surgery is scheduled for January 3.
- Monsoon times are especially hard to go out to the villages for ministry. Pray for grace.

From David Thomas
EFM Whole-Life Discipleship

Praise God (Thailand)...

- For team members meeting with each other to encourage each other in their growth using their Personal Development Plans.
- For good times of prayer and listening to God as they seek to discern together the villages God is leading them to disciple.

Please Pray (Thailand)...

- For wisdom and favor for Solomon, Yosapa, Charlee, and Pla as they lead the two D4D teams mentoring them and preparing them for working in the villages they will soon be selecting.
- For clear discernment and insight from heaven as these leaders guide their teams in seeking God's guidance in selecting these communities.
- For David Thomas and Scott Purser who will be coaching the Thailand Lahu team Monday the 23rd of September through Friday the 27th. They will be helping the teams get ready to enter the communities they have selected and begin the process of mobilizing them around a shared vision of transformation.

Praise God (Rwanda)...

- For five D4D church teams throughout Rwanda who are engaging their communities visioning together what their community could look like as God's Kingdom is free to thrive among them! Thank God for a high level of receptivity among community leaders for these teams to mentor them in a transforming process.
- For Musovu leaders in Rwanda who are remembering all they have been taught over these past years and are now teaching these lessons and principles again with their wider community.

Please Pray (Rwanda)...

- For Tertullien, Augustin, Gerard, and Brad to be healthy, rested, focused, and strategic, so that they can thrive and be effective in their work of leadership development. They have been working at a level that is not sustainable and have been getting tired and sick. Pray for Brad to regain his health and energy.
- For the five Rwandan D4D church teams to continue to have favor with their community leaders. Pray for an excellent choice of leaders (people of peace) they can work with who are respected in the community and who can influence others. Pray for the organization of regular meeting times, and for good meetings where they will begin facilitating (teaching) their first lessons. Pray for unity.
- For our Burundi and our eastern DR Congo leaders to grow in their understanding of whole-life discipleship, in their personal transformation, and in their Bible-telling skills. Pray for excellent learning and life transformation as they implement what they are learning during the preparation phase.

Praise God (Cambodia)...

- For the relationships and opportunities God is opening up for the Swards and Elise in Stueng Treng. Praise God for unity and a good partnership with their YWAM colleagues in this area.

Please Pray (Cambodia)...

- For a deepening of each team member's relationship with Jesus, and for discernment in the Holy Spirit's leading. Pray for Scott's relationship with a young teacher and the leaders in the village he comes from.