



# Evangelical Friends Mission

## October 2021 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.

### B. and D. A | Serving in Nepal

#### Gospel Preached, Demons Cast Out, Souls Saved

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers and your support. We truly appreciate it with all of our hearts.

In one of our areas, our pastors had been going to a brand-new village and preaching the gospel for months. Now they thought it was time for them to give a chance for the Hindus to accept Christ.

After they preached the gospel again, they started praying. While they were praying the Spirit of the living God started descending among the people and everyone could feel his presence. The fire of God descended. This caused the two women who were possessed with demons to manifest and cry out loud.

When the villagers heard this, huge crowds of Hindus from the village started piling to hear what was happening. Our pastors started casting out the demons from the two women. The demons convulsed the two women; they were cast out, and the women fell to the floor as you can see in the picture at the bottom right.

Then our pastors gave the invitation for people to accept Christ. Five Hindus who had been hearing the gospel for months gave their lives and accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. A new church plant has started in that village.

Then an amazing thing happened. One after another the Hindus who saw the power of God started inviting our pastors to come to their homes and pray for the sick. They went from house to house proclaiming the gospel and praying for the sick. They said it was just amazing what the Lord's power was doing.

Please be praying for our evangelistic meeting during the Hindus' biggest festival October 15-16. Pray that the Lord will grant us a big harvest of souls.

Blessings,  
B. and D. A.

#### ***Praise God..***

- That God has kept our churches safe from COVID-19.

#### ***Please Pray...***

- That our churches will go forth with great power to evangelize the Hindus.



## From the EFM Office

### *Praise God...*

- For a couple of small gatherings that happened at Camp Tilikum (Oregon) on September 22. Supporters of EFM from the Newberg area came to eat some dessert and receive updates on how God is using EFM to help fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God. Our new Executive Director, Stan Leach, was there along with Dan Cammack, Matt Macy, and Kimberly Mer.
- For the time Stan, Dan, Matt, and Kimberly were able to spend together September 21-23 working on transition issues related to their new roles as well as planning ahead.

### *Please Pray...*

- For small gatherings (similar to the ones mentioned above) that will be held in the Evangelical Friends Church- Mid America Yearly Meeting region in October. Stan and Matt will participate in these gatherings.
- Continue to pray for wisdom about when to start traveling internationally again.

## EFM Five-Year Goal:

**To send 10 new missionary households from North America to launch 5 new fields by December 31, 2025.**

### *Praise God...*

- For the planning that is already underway to conduct at least ten Luke 10 Trips in 2022. Some dates for these trips are beginning to appear on the calendar as well as names of people who are giving leadership to them. Stay tuned for more details about EFM Luke 10 Trips in the months to come!
- For those who participated in the Future Missionary activities last summer. Many of them are indicating that they are ready to take additional steps in their discernment process. Additional steps include Luke 10 Trips as well as short-term assignments on some of EFM's mission fields.

### *Please Pray...*

- For the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the harvest fields.
- For a survey that is being conducted with those who have indicated to EFM that they are exploring whether God is calling them to serve as missionaries. The survey will help determine the timing of the next Future Missionary Retreats and Future Missionary Short-Term Trips as well as a way for them to stay connected to EFM and one another in between these events.
- That much more progress will be made in October regarding the planning of the Luke 10 Trips that will take place in 2022. Pray especially for establishing the dates of these trips, determining who will lead them, and who else will participate in them. Remember that we are looking for a combination of future missionaries, leaders from the regions/yearly meetings in the U.S., people with missions experience, and also leaders from the yearly meetings that are close to the areas that will be explored.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** Join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10-11 AM PST for our Luke 10:2 Gathering via Zoom in support of EFM's Five-Year Goal. If you would like to participate in this gathering you can sign up for it at <https://friendsmission.com/prayer-gathering>. You will receive some prayer points and the link for the gathering a few days before the event.

## From Maria Giron

### **Serving as the Missions Mobilizer for Hispanic Friends**

### *Praise God...*

- For our visit to the Mexico Yearly Meeting in the month of September. For wonderful in person meetings with the Superintendent and some church leaders and pastors to continue promoting and encouraging the churches to move forward with the VM32 church planting project. Praise God that we were able to see the involvement of the churches with a sense of belonging for the VM32.
- For the progress that has been made in the VM32 project. During our visit to Mexico, we met more possible candidates to go out to plant churches in states of the Mexican Republic where there is no presence of Friends.

### *Please Pray...*

- That the obstacles, which are preventing new workers from going out into the field to plant more churches, be removed in the name of Jesus, delivering the new workers to be able to move forward spreading the gospel.
- For AMANA, the annual gathering of Hispanic Friends of North America, which will take place October 14-16 via Zoom. May it be of great blessing, encouragement, and could see attendance of many Hispanic Friends. My husband and I will have the opportunity to share workshops and preaching.

## From Voicu and Ana Marian

### **Serving in Romania**

### *Praise God...*

- For a time of rich blessings in countless ways; good health and safety, making new friends inside and outside the kingdom.
- For God's ordained opportunities to witness for Christ in unexpected places and situations. His ways are so much above our ways!
- For the Lord's tug at our hearts to return to Sibiu and the dear people who are looking forward to seeing us there.

### *Please Pray...*

- For wisdom and protection in different situations and meetings here in Ohio before flying out October 1. Safe travels and guidance once we arrive. Romania's COVID-19 cases have jumped up dramatically in the last few weeks; we may be faced with harsh restrictions along with "mandatory green certificate".
- For peace as we leave loved ones; Voicu's 94-year-old dad living in Alliance and our daughter Christina in Columbus.
- Our son John moved to Calarasi, in Southern Romania for the winter. What began as a short missionary trip in May turned out to be a life changing experience. He's serving alongside several other Christian workers, reaching out to a broad community, some extremely poor. Their service includes supplying food and medical aid, construction and repair projects, sports ministry in a private multi-purpose gym, and training from grade school kids to adults, all as a tool for evangelism. Please pray for their protection and unity, the Lord's wisdom, and guidance for John's future.

## From Brad and Chelsea Carpenter

### **Serving in Rwanda**

### *Praise God...*

- For the Lord's help in the Carpenter family settling back into Rwanda.
- For the churches that have been able to reopen after various challenges and lockdowns due to COVID-19 protocols.
- For the creativity of leaders using technology to connect with each other, the churches they lead, etc. during this time of COVID-19 restrictions.

### *Please Pray...*

- For wisdom and insight for EFC-R leaders leading during this time.
- For other churches to be able to meet the requirements in order to reopen.
- For the Lord to increase passion and a sense of call for our Evangelical Friends in Africa to be a part of a movement of whole-life discipleship, church planting, and missionary sending.

**From Abe and Diane Bible  
Serving in Ukraine**

***Praise God...***

- Abe had a good group of 85 men to start the New Life for Men evangelistic training workshops for this fall. They were excited to come. One man even wants to do the training himself in his province. Always what we desire—passing it on.
- For good progress on the website although it is not fully functional. We look forward to future blessings through that.
- Abe met two 14-year-old boys who got saved while taking the course Financial Freedom! The influence goes on!

***Please Pray...***

- Abe did experience resistance in a new area that he held a workshop in. One man was very critical of everything. These are “tradition-based” people. Pray that despite Satan’s opposition a new vision for evangelism will develop in that area of the country.
- For Abe’s health as he is traveling almost weekly, gone at least three days a week.
- For revival in Ukraine. In the end—that is what it’s about. Hearts going back to their first love for Jesus and a willingness to be involved in the expansion of God’s kingdom.

**From Tony and Agi Frei  
Serving in Hungary**

***Praise God...***

- On the 12<sup>th</sup> of September we had a meeting for a public testimony of baptism. We were very thankful to our God because there were ten new brothers and sisters who had chosen God and they testified their faith in front of many people and God too. We had a blessed community and we were very joyful because they made this decision and sealed their lives.
- We had a youth camp from the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> of August. We had a blessed and encouraging community. We kept Bible lessons every morning and afternoon, and we could share each other’s problems and testimonies. The new members asked a lot and they got answers for their questions. Therefore, glory to God alone. After the camp we had five new youths, who received Jesus and wanted to give a public testimony of baptism.
- We got an invitation from Susan, who is the director of the community house from Budapest. We took part in this event on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September. There were a lot of unbeliever people thanks to the various family programs. We could do handcrafts with the children. A couple from our church made a typical Hungarian soup (bean soup). We invited a lot of children and their parents for lunch, but most importantly, we gave a testimony to the unbeliever parents, and we could call them to the local church.

***Please Pray...***

- We restarted every mission station, except Pécs. (Please pray for the mission of Pécs!) We found a new place with a better approach, and we would like to rent it. Please, pray for us, so that we can make a deal with the local community house leader.
- We would like to finish the renovation of Tolna Mission Centre. Please pray for our God’s help.
- A young married couple from the church of Tolna is expecting a baby girl. The baby will be born in the beginning of November. It’s a hard period for them because they have a two-year-old daughter and they are moving to a new family house in November too. Please pray for this little family that our Lord will give them strength.

**From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj  
Serving in Nepal**

***Praise God...***

- For a staff retreat held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September that helped us to re-energize for the CHE work and small business commitments regarding a CLC (Community Learning Centre) in the next six months of the year.
- For the CHE Vision seminar held in Chitwan for participants from Mudebas and Parewakot Friends churches.
- LEAD-1 Training (discipleship) for church leaders in Rautahat was conducted successfully for 18 participants from seven churches, led by Suleman and Asha in Cha’pur. This is the first of a nine-part training to be held every month.

***Please Pray...***

- A CHE Training (Vision Seminar) to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September at Gol Bazar, (Siraha District), where the local Friends church leader invited us to help them in their efforts to evangelize and disciple the local community. There will be 16 participants from the local church attending this training.
- For the new business started by Narayan (our CHE Trainer) in Bardia with the help of government bank loans, to run a Community Service Centre (CSC) and providing help using Wi-Fi and internet facilities for people who are submitting proposals for small business and land deals to the local government for approval.
- For the three-day DMD (disciple making disciple) training in late September at Aurahi (Janakpur) by Arun and his wife Babli for the Musahar and other Dalit children in the community.

**From David Thomas  
EFM Whole-Life Discipleship**

***Praise God (Rwanda, Burundi, DR Congo (Uvira and Goma)...***

- For the Carpenters purchasing a needed Toyota Land Cruiser II that can seat their whole family.
- That Lusungu has been able to return home to Uvira to continue convalescing.

***Please Pray (Rwanda, Burundi, DR Congo (Uvira and Goma)...***

- For Rwanda leadership to resolve their differences with Uganda and Burundi and for the borders between these countries to open back up!
- For our D4D Rwanda coaches to creatively engage with their teams and leaders in Burundi and Congo in the middle of COVID-19 restrictions.

***Praise God (Thailand-Lahu)...***

- For an excellent and unified team of leaders at The Way Foundation!
- For excellent leaders like, Solomon, Cha’lee, Yosapa and Majise and Jonathan.

***Please Pray (Thailand-Lahu)...***

- For reengagement with the D4D process in Ja Ta (with Pa Mu) and in Ja Sa Pa.
- For a possible October trip for Ben Kibbe, David Thomas and Dan Cammack. Pray for good conversations and good plans as our Lahu team takes more and more ownership and leadership of The Way Foundation.
- For a translator who can help David and Scott mentor and coach from a distance and in person.

***Praise God (Cambodia)...***

- For greater family-time for leaders and missionaries who are “stuck” at home.

***Please Pray (Cambodia)...***

- For God’s deep blessing on the relationship between parents and children and the discipleship of their children.