



Evangelical Friends Mission

February 2022 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.

Philippine Evangelical Friends International Ministries - PEFIM

Philippine Evangelical Friends Church (PEFC) celebrated Christmas by remembering the greatest gift humanity ever received in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ! He is the real reason for every celebration of Christmas. It is also through the example of Jesus when he gave his life as ransom for the forgiveness of sins of those who believe that PEFC extends a generous attitude toward its members and the community at large.



We praise God for the generosity of our members who faithfully bring their gifts, tithes, and offerings to the church to meet its every need and be able to respond to the need of others as well. As the church celebrates Christmas we were able to bless our church community and others with significant gifts that provided food on their tables on Christmas Eve!

In all these, we give God the praises and glory for his faithfulness to his people. We continue to lift our church family to the Lord for his protection, continued favor and provision in 2022!



Praise God for the successful launching of Taytay Evangelical Friends Church (TEFC) located in West Bank, Floodway, Taytay, Rizal. We are exceedingly grateful to the Lord for his faithfulness and grace that he established his church in the challenged area of Taytay. He raised faithful leaders who passionately share the gospel and extend the love of Christ in their community through preaching the holy scriptures and in many practical and tangible ways.

In partnership with faithful Friends and partners in the ministry TEFC was able to give Christmas gift in the form of grocery items to poor families in the community. A delightful fellowship over sumptuous meal followed the worship celebration. Children were given gifts and meals the previous day (Saturday) during their Christmas celebration.



Jesus himself taught his disciples that whatever they do to people in need around them, they do to him as well. Looking after the welfare of the church and its surrounding community is part of the mission of "discipling nations" that Christ himself instructed his disciples.

Please continue to pray for this newly established church that it will effectively proclaim God's glory in Jesus Christ. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance as the leadership composed of relatively young elders. They may be young in age but certainly mature in faith. Thank you for the presence of Pastor Memma Necesito Abella and Marie Anb Ezeonyilimba who represented PEFIM BOE. We appreciated your presence very much!



Sa Diyos ang Papuri! Soli Deo Gloria! God alone Be Praised! Be blessed Friends!
Rev. Crisanto B. Dela Cruz

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- For another strong financial finish for EFM. By his grace we are closing the books for 2021 well in the black.
- For all those like you who faithfully pray for EFM's stateside staff, missionaries, board members, and regional partners both here in the U.S. and around the world. We couldn't accomplish our mission without this kind of support!

Please Pray...

- For the EFM staff as we gather in Southern California February 8-13 for a retreat. Since ours is a virtual office, these face-to-face times of fellowship and meetings are very important.
- For the next Worldwide Missionary Gathering which has been scheduled for early December of this year in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The first one was held in the same place in November of 2013; this will be the second one. Such a gathering serves many purposes. Fellowship, worship, teaching, discussion, and having some fun together are among them.

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 strong support we feel nation-wide among Friends for the Five-Year Goal and the various parts of the Luke 10 Initiative that help move us closer to the goal.
- Support for the goal is also getting stronger at the international level. The Luke 10 Vision Trips that took place in January, one to Central Africa and the other to Latin America, did much to raise awareness and identify ways to work together in world missions.
- For the first Future Missionary Cohort teaching and discussion session that occurred online in January. There were thirteen future missionaries and eight missionary mentors who participated in the session. This will be a monthly gathering throughout the year.

Please Pray...

- For the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the harvest fields.
- For wisdom as we continue to learn what it looks like to travel internationally at this point in the COVID-19 pandemic. May we and our regional partners be sensitive to the Lord's leading as we all continue to plan Luke 10 Trips for 2022. Stay tuned for the dates of these trips!

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 Kathi Perry Serving in Ireland

Praise God...

- I'm in Ireland! It is good to be back in my house and seeing the people I've missed.
- I am fully funded, which means that we have confidence that with the commitments for giving, and the gifts already given, I have the financial support needed for four more years. Thank you!
- I am thankful for the hospitality extended to me over the four months in the U.S. by churches and individuals.

Please Pray...

- For direction as I take some time to assess ministry over the past years, and how to move forward through big societal changes.
- For families who have experienced loss and changes in work and family life over the past two years. Pray that I will know how to support and respond to them.
- For opportunities to connect with people over the next weeks, to catch up and talk about the future Little Friends groups.

From Tony and Agi Frei Serving in Hungary

Praise God...

- For Zoltán. Zoltán is 43 years old and works abroad (in Germany). He was on break in Hungary from December to February. His sister lives in Tolna (she is my older daughter's Timi's friend). My daughter invited him to our church. Three years ago, Zoltán received Jesus (when his mother died). He loves God very much and he is very enthusiastic for him. He comes everywhere in our mission, serves with me, and gives testimonies. Zoltán would like to make a public testimony of baptism in our Church Tolna next months.
- We could go everywhere we needed before and after Christmas. We were abroad (Croatia and Serbia), in Ozora, in Pécs, in Budapest, and we could celebrate together. We celebrated in Tolna too (on the 26th of December). Everywhere, we could hand out Christmas packages for children and a new Christian calendar for several families. We could also tell the story of Jesus' birth. In Serbia, Croatia, Kölked, and Ozora, we gave donations for the poor families, and they were so thankful for it. We had a really blessed time everywhere.
- Some people from our church (for example my younger daughter, Betti and her family, my nephew, Daniel and his family) suffered from COVID-19. But glory to our God, everyone was healed and they are fine now.

Please Pray...

- For my sister-in-law, Anikó (who is Agi's sister) and her 16-years-old twins, Blanka and Beáta. The girls were healed from their sickness, but last week, they got COVID-19. They are in bad condition; they have a heavy headache, and they are very weak.
- For my father-in-law, Árpád who has been a widower since March 2021. He has serious cartilage wear and a lot of trouble sleeping. Doctors have been unable to help him and could not get him scheduled for surgery for a few months. He urgently needs a hip prothesis. We pray to God to prepare a miracle for him.
- For one of our brothers, Joseph, from Tolna. He is a middle-aged man. He also suffered from COVID-19 last week. He is in bad condition now, and he has some basic health problems (hypertension, overweight, and high blood sugar). Because of these problems, Joseph is in even greater danger. Thank you for your prayers and support.

From Rupak and Pramila Tamang Serving in Bhutan

Praise God...

- That new churches are experiencing ways to serve God in different ways, such as marriages, child dedications, etc.
- We have moved houses in Thimphu and are comfortable.
- We remain safe from COVID-19.

Please Pray...

- For our protection since we are not allowed to gather but believers still want to have fellowship.
- For the wisdom to minister to the young churches.
- For the leader's training this February.

From B. and D. A. Serving in Nepal

Praise God...

- That new converts are being discipled in their walk of faith and to stand for the Lord when persecution comes.

Please Pray...

- For recent new recent converts that they will become strong in the Lord.

**From A. and M. A.
Serving in Bangladesh**

Praise God...

- That two more churches have been planted in January. In total 119 people have received Christ and took a public testimony of baptism from November 2021 to January 2022. Thank God for His mercy and guidance.
- That our unfinished wall at the Kanaidia church has been started. Thank God for his protection and care.
- That five more disciples have been developed who are actively involved in the ministry.

Please Pray...

- That we can develop 40 multiplying disciples by the end of this year through our lay leaders and can start a ministry in five new areas.
- For our newly planted Pakuria EFC church. They are facing huge threats from a local leader along with a spiritual leader. We believe that God can convert any negative situation to a positive one for his glory. Pray for the courage of our lay leaders to face any persecution and opposition that comes from the community. Also, pray to stand on the promises of God.
- We are planning and praying to attend Steve's graduation in the first week of May. Pray for all of the details to come together so that we can visit our son at Barclay College, Haviland, Kansas.

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj

Serving in Nepal

Praise God...

- For keeping us all safe from the severe cold and also the third wave of COVID-19. Many people in Nepal are facing great difficulties in dealing with these issues, and dealing with a shortage of the vaccine.
- The LEAD and SBD training held by Global Disciples in Pokhara which Solomon and Archana Choudhary were able to attend. Now we have a full team to address all the aspects of training such as CHE, Discipleship, LEAD and SBD in Rautahat.
- The Rautahat CHE Committee has been successfully registered with the Social Welfare Department of Nepal to provide to the relief and development needs of the community.

Please Pray...

- For the three recipients of Christmas gifts Ra Maya (Chitwan), Nathuni Majhi (Rautahat), and Gowrie Gurung (Bardiya) as they start small business with the help of grants provided to raise goats, pigs and chickens. We are very grateful to those who provided help to these individuals, so that they could have a supportive role in their communities and churches.
- For Ganesh and Balkumari Pun and the fast food place they started in the bus stand area of Gulariya. Their profits are being channeled towards their church building.
- For us (Samson and Priscilla) as we move from Kathmandu to Nepalganj in the month of March. Priscilla has the added responsibility of taking care of her mother living alone in Lucknow India and will be looking for a job there as well. Nepalganj is also closer to the Far West Nepal which we plan to reach out to using CHE and SBD.