



# Evangelical Friends Mission

## April 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.

### EFM Future Missionary Training Trip | Rwanda

Having recently retired from a university teaching career I am praying about how and where God might use me next. It has been a delight to join EFM's future missionary training trips that provide cultural immersion and opportunities to learn from local leaders and missionaries on the front lines.

In January I was able to spend three weeks on the future missionary trip to Rwanda, Africa. I enjoyed getting to know our current missionaries, the Carpenter family, learn culture, make friends, and get firsthand training exposure to the whole life discipleship method being used there called Discipling for Development (D4D). It was especially meaningful for me to witness how people are coming to Christ and experiencing the abundant life promised as they learn through the D4D program how to wholly walk with God.

It was a privilege to be part of the joint meetings between EFM leadership and Rwandan church leaders to discuss partnering with them to reach unreached people in surrounding African countries.

My experience in Rwanda has spurred me to continue pursuing options for future missionary service and especially prompted me to get further training in Discipling for Development. Regardless of where he leads me, I'm excited to see that God is working in central Africa, and so happy to explore how I can further be a part of it. Thank you, EFM, for this opportunity.

Jan Cammack  
EFM Future Missionary



## From the EFM Office

### *Praise God...*

- For last month's visit to Thailand. Even though no one from Bhutan was able to come to Thailand to meet with Dan Cammack and Thayne Thompson (because of a pandemic-related lockdown in Bhutan), some good work was able to happen via Zoom. The visit to Chiangrai to get acquainted with The Way Foundation ministry went very well. Dan enjoyed being there with Ben Kibbe, David Thomas, Scott Purser, and the leaders of the ministry.
- For the fruitful time Matt Macy had in Coahuila, Mexico, as part of Evangelical Friends Church-Mid America Yearly Meeting's (EFC-MAYM) Spring Invasion. It's a good time for Friends from Mexico and Mid America to work on projects together and build kingdom relationships.

### *Please Pray...*

- For the search for an administrative assistant to join our staff.
- For Stan Leach, Matt Macy, Kimberly Mer, and Dan Cammack, as they meet as directors in Canton, Ohio, April 7 and 8.
- That this Easter season will strengthen the resolve of Friends to do our part in carrying out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

## 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 work of all the regional teams that are planning Luke 10 Exploration Trips to at least 10 areas of the world in 2022. See below the prayer request for the first of these trips to take place. It is happening this month! Continue to pray for the other trips, some of which will take place this summer.
- For the people who are still being added to our list of potential future missionaries. There are at least 100 on that list now!

### *Please Pray...*

- For the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the harvest fields.
- For a conference that is taking place in the Cleveland, Ohio, area on April 8 and 9 for those who are exploring a call to missionary service. The conference is called Be on Mission (BOM). Pray that it will bring clarity to those who are discerning how God wants them to be involved in his mission to the world.
- For the Luke 10 Trip that will take place in the Guadalajara, Mexico, area April 19-29. It is the first of ten exploratory trips that are likely to take place in 2022. Friends from EFC-MAYM and Mexico Yearly Meeting (10 from Mexico and 5 from the U.S.) will be part of this trip along with Maria and Edwin Giron.

**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...*

- Thankful to be back home in Ireland (since January! How is it that long already?)!
- Thankful that the COVID-19 restrictions have relaxed in Ireland, and we can gather with friends.
- Thankful for opportunities to preach and teach since I returned.

### *Please Pray...*

- For me and the families I work with as we make decisions about what to continue or revise following two years with no groups!
- For Ireland as they receive up to 100,000 refugees from Ukraine. Pray that we (as a country, and as local believers) would know how to respond to support and assist these hurting people.

## From Maria Giron

### Serving as the Missions Mobilizer for Hispanic Friends

### *Praise God...*

- For the opportunity to participate in the Mexico Yearly Meeting sessions held at a retreat place in Guadalajara, Jalisco. It was a great blessing to have fellowship in person with our dear Friends leaders and pastors Friends of Mexico.
- For eight young people who answered the call at the Yearly Meeting campfire, raising their hands and saying, "Here I am, Lord send me," after Edwin preached and challenged the Yearly Meeting to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest.
- For the first time we were invited (challenged) to share at an evangelism seminar to Barclay College students in Haviland, Kansas. It was a beautiful experience in which God has allowed us to meet these young people and to be able to include them now in our prayers so that many of them would continue to fulfill the Great Commission to the ends of the world.

### *Please Pray...*

- For the upcoming trip on April 19-29, the Luke 10 Exploration Trip to the states of Jalisco, Nayarit, and Colima in Mexico. In Nayarit we will be visiting the territory of the "Huichol" ethnic group, consider as one of the unreached groups in Mexico. Pray for our safety, but more than anything for discernment and unity of the United States team that will also be teaming up with Mexican national leaders.
- For more prayer and financial support to cover the expenses of each person on this Luke 10 Trip to Mexico.
- For the ability to follow up with the eight young people challenged at the campfire to be future missionaries or church planters. May the feeling of the call grow and be very clear in their hearts and not just as an emotion.

## From A. and S. Massey Serving in India

### *Praise God...*

- For improvement in Shobha's health.
- For the opportunity to mentor Caring Hands staff through weekly zoom meetings.

### *Please Pray...*

- That Shobha will be totally healed.
- For all our children and young people whose annual school exams will start during April and May.
- For our travel and stay in the U.S. from mid-April to September. Provision of a place, a car, and safety as we travel and speak. Melissa will be with us as it is her vacation time.

## From Brad and Chelsea Carpenter Serving in Rwanda

### *Praise God...*

- The trip to Burundi in March was a success and a great opportunity to get a better gauge on how COVID-19 has impacted their process and where they all are.
- Despite hard circumstances, the people in the Burundi discipleship groups have deepened their understanding of God's love for them and the ways he has provided for them in the here and now, which has led to a church building and a new church plant.
- Ian turned two in March. We praise God for his life and health!

### *Please Pray...*

- In Burundi, they realized they need more face-to-face coaching to fully understand the D4D process. Pray for continued opportunities to meet in person and for their progress.
- For the group in Congo and the two groups in Burundi, as they are still only at stage one of five in the D4D training; that they may be encouraged in their process, and have the needed intentionality in their day-to-day.
- For all of us in Rwanda this month, as we spend a week commemorating the genocide of 1994. Please pray that Christ will break through any darkness and bring repentance, forgiveness, healing, comfort, redemption, and rest.

**From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj**  
**Serving in Nepal**  
*Praise God...*

- For a smooth transition to Nepalganj as we moved base from Kathmandu. After so many years in Nepal and experiencing the niceties of living in the capital city of Nepal, we are trying to adjust to life in a smaller town, which has the advantage of being nearer to the far west districts and communities living in difficult circumstances round the year. With the help of medical clinics and CHE Trainings we will try and reach out to communities living in remote areas. Please pray for the required grace in all these endeavors
- Ra Maya (Chitwan) and Nathuni Majhi (Cha'pur) who received help in raising goats and pigs have been blessed in their families and are now in turn helping their churches by giving back the first fruits and tithes. Gowrie's chicken farm has grown tremendously, and the Tapara (Bardiya) community have completed their church building work with generous financial help from some local supporters and we were able to worship with them in this new place.

*Please Pray...*

- For us, as we visited Priscilla's mother in Lucknow India, in March. We spent some time with her and looked around for a suitable job for Priscilla who will have to spend extended time in India with her mother. One good option is available, and we are praying and asking God to show his favor and will for her.
- For the medical clinic in Aurahi managed by Arun and Babi who are working with the Musahar (Dalit) children. Progress is slow but they are serving in the face of many odds in their community. Please pray for them as they hold film shows in the communities and do outreach work.
- For the forthcoming Small Business Development (SBD) training to be conducted by Global Disciples Nepal and to be held in Cha'pur in late March for our CHE trainers (Arun, Narayan, Gokarna, and Suleman) and for leaders from some local churches.

**From Dave and Cindy Aufrance**  
**Retired Missionaries from Hong Kong**  
*Please Pray...*

- For the surge of COVID-19 cases in Hong Kong currently making life difficult for the whole territory. This has happened despite some of the strictest restrictions of anywhere in the world and high vaccinations rates, with their zero COVID-19 policies. The deaths have not exceeded the number that were in Wuhan itself.
- For those that have left Hong Kong in the past year and a half. Nearly 90,000 left in 2021 because of the political situation. 40% of those have immigrated elsewhere are reported to be Christians. Pray that they will be a light in the places where they settle. And pray for the churches in Hong Kong which have not been meeting for several months, and for God to raise up pastors for the churches whose pastors have also immigrated.
- For the pastor from the Philippines who will be going to pastor River Grace Hong Kong Evangelical Church. She has a visa and is ready to go, but currently there are no flights available from the Philippines.

**From Rupak and Pramila Tamang**  
**Serving in Bhutan**  
*Praise God...*

- After a long time in lockdown, it was slowly relaxed on March 21 in Thimphu.
- For our friend Isack, who got construction work and is providing ten Friends church members jobs during the pandemic situation.
- For Tashi and Mark who visited us from Wangdi Friends church for two months and to learn biblical teaching.

*Please Pray...*

- For our sons, Samuel and Simon, who started college for their studies and are in their fourth semester.
- For 20 days of training for our leaders in April.
- For our visit to different areas, waiting for some to fully open, as many parts of the country are still in lockdown.

**From Abe and Diane Bible**  
**Serving in Ukraine**  
*Praise God...*

- We are still in Ukraine at the moment and safe. A small light in the darkness here.
- Our daughter and granddaughter fled from their area for a couple weeks as it was close to Kyiv and they've taken that opportunity to minister in a refugee center near to us which was overwhelmed at the beginning especially. Two ladies worked for ten days straight without a break feeding 100 or more people a day with three meals and trying to keep bedding clean etc.
- Finally, we see some unity in the world and among believers. And we see that unity here as churches are all pulling together trying to meet all the needs, physical and spiritual.

*Please Pray...*

- This attack on Ukraine is a terrible thing- Without provocation. We have 10 million displaced people. A quarter of the population. None of us ever imagined that Russia would try to take the whole country! Almost four million have gone across the border. Pray for these distraught souls whose lives will never be the same. Pray for people who try to care for them. Pray for the grieving families who have lost loved ones.
- That the kingdom of God will be advanced. We don't understand, but we know the God whom we serve, and that hope comes from him. Pray that the Word of the Lord would faithfully go out. That people would see that they are unceasing spiritual beings with an eternal destiny.
- We are considering whether to leave the country in April. No ministry as we have known it is taking place, nor will it be able to for a long time. So, we are praying whether our efforts would be better to connect with supporters and churches over the next few months in the West and then hopefully return in the fall and try to pick up where we left off. Please pray that we will make a wise decision.

**From Tony and Agi Frei**  
**Serving in Hungary**  
*Praise God...*

- The situation in our neighborhood, between Ukraine and Russia, we are thankful because our country shows a big cooperation: lots of people help the Ukrainian refugees with accommodation, with money, and with donations. In our mission, we also organized a collection for these people and some unbelievers helped in this too. In the last week, we went to Zákányszék and Kiskunmajsa, and I gave our donation to a refugee team, we prayed together for this situation, and we continue to collect and give them what they need.
- Glory to God, the number of the COVID-19 infections decreased in Hungary and our government terminated almost all the pandemic restrictions.
- We started to renovate our foundation house in Tolna. We believe if we are in unity our God will bless us and we can finish it together.

*Please Pray...*

- For the Ukrainian – Russian war. We are following the news sadly, and we are praying to the Lord every day for these painful situations. We trust in God alone, the Prince of Peace.
- For our older daughter, Timi. As you know, she had a bad stomach ache for a long time. The reason is that a special bacterium attacked her intestines, after she took antibiotics. She is better, but she needs to take a restorative medicine for a month, but it causes stomach pain for her. Please, pray for our daughter.
- For Agi's father, Arpád. As you know he has a big problem with his hip, with his cartilage wear. His condition is getting worse and worse, and he is still waiting for a surgery appointment.

**From B. and D. A.**  
**Serving in Nepal**  
*Praise God...*

- We had three new pastors recorded. We are very excited for them. They are very faithful to the Lord.

*Please Pray...*

- For our Easter Evangelistic meetings. Please ask the Lord for a great harvest.

**From M. and K. L.  
Serving in Asia  
Praise God...**

- We've never felt more a part of the village and community here, which is an answer to your prayers and a testament of God's continuing to establish us here.
- Due to end-of-school-year exam schedules, we've had extra kids in and out of our home, which has been a good time providing a place of peace to play, have a snack, and enjoy themselves. We've also been able to join in with the evening play of the village kids in other parts of the village, which our children have greatly enjoyed!

**Please Pray...**

- For Good Friday and Easter, that we can adequately communicate the Good News. We'll have activities and a party of some kind that will include sharing what this is all about.
- For what to do with this last part of the business paperwork issue as well as favor with everyone involved.
- We'd appreciate prayers for continued health, especially for our youngest who has struggled the most health-wise since returning.

**From Roy and Jinky Twaddell  
Retired EFM Missionaries in the Philippines  
Praise God...**

- Although we have retired, we have been able to follow up on many of our relationships with our Friends and ministry projects. Recently we drove to Samar and visit Pastor Chito at Dawo Friends and Pastor Michael at Malvar. Both are doing well, as is the livelihood farm of Pastor Chito. We were able to drive Chito and his daughter back to Manila so he could visit his father who is dying from cancer. We also carried 100 kilos of ginger back for Chito to sell.
- Roy had a great visit with Tabon and Tagnipa Friends in Palawan, teaching a course on discipleship and preaching on Sunday. Roy was the guest speaker at Ma'am Pening's (wife of Pastor Pedro) 70th Birthday celebration. It was a blessing to be with our beloved family at Tabon.

**Please Pray...**

- For Pastor Chito to have a good harvest of ginger, kamote, casava, banana, and papaya.
- Please continue to pray for Tabon and Tagnipa as they grow and reach out to their communities.
- Please continue to lift Jinky and me up as we prepare to come to visit and say our thank you goodbyes to all our wonderful partners in ministry for the last 28 years. We will be in the States from April 15- June 10.

**From David Thomas  
EFM Whole Life Discipleship  
Praise God...**

- For a great trip in March to Chiang Rai, Thailand with Dan Cammack and Scott Purser. We witnessed the smooth transition in leadership of The Way Foundation from Ben Kibbe as Executive Director to Chalee along with Solomon assuming the board chair. Yosapa follows Solomon as our new D4D leader.
- For Yosapa's growth in experience mentoring leaders in both the JaTaw and JaSawPa villages. Praise God for his excitement and learning in trying out different projects like raising chickens. Praise God for his discipling of the new church in JaSawPa.

**Please Pray...**

- For our Lahu, Thai leaders as they guide The Way Foundation. Thank God for Holy Spirit anointing and ask for all the wisdom they need to lead well.
- For blessing and wisdom for Yosapa as he leads the Way Foundation D4D team in partnering with leaders in JaTaw and JaSawPa as they meet with their neighbors and cast vision for what their villages might look like as they overcome the major barriers facing them.