



Evangelical Friends Mission

March 2025 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.

The M. and K. L. Family | Serving in Asia

The wintertime in our home is full of so many things! It's full of extra kids during their break from school, full of playing and laughing, full of snacks and Sunday school activities, full of hoping for snow on the ground to go skiing and sledding down the main path, full of helping neighbors get things finished before the snow comes, full of sporadic electricity, full of homeschool, full of blood pressure checks, and this last week full of preparing to go on another mandatory visa run. The last few weeks our village has been full of dedication to worshipping their idol. Every year for about a month and a half our village and the surrounding villages allow their "gods" to go into meditation, and the people subject themselves to added limitations. During this time, because of all of the extra worship, it can feel like a very dark time. This year we have come up against a lot of different trials and challenges. During this time, we have had several things stolen from us, we have had to deal with several different situations of being cheated, our car was hit by a drunk driver while parked, and things around our house just randomly kept breaking. It has been a season of frustration and discouragement; at times, we were left wondering what was going on! We've had to pray very hard for wisdom and discernment in knowing how to address all of these separate issues. M. has been kept exceedingly busy fixing broken things and working on figuring out paperwork as well as how to best address the issues concerning our neighbors. However, through almost all of these situations, during the moment of confrontation and after, we have seen God work in amazing ways! Most of the interactions have produced a spirit of repentance and a deepening of relationships with us and our family! We did not want these issues to be a hinderance for the Gospel in any way! We know that during this time, the enemy has meant to discourage us and use whatever means possible against us. We are so thankful that what Satan meant for evil, God has used for good! Additionally, we are reminded in our own lives of when we are confronted with wrong, our own shortcomings, and mistakes to immediately go to Jesus for forgiveness! We're so thankful for God's grace and mercy and that we are able to extend that grace and mercy and show genuine forgiveness to those around us! God has been winning the battle and using these weeks to help us rely on him deeper and showing who he is through us!

Thank you for all you do!

The M. and K. L. Family



Praise God...

- God is working in the challenging circumstances that Satan has been trying to use for evil.
- Health for our family, even when so many around us have not been healthy.

Please Pray...

- The government here continues to crack down on Christians in the country by denying many from reentering. We have heard of many different instances where immigration has canceled visas or denied entry or re-entry while either coming or going from the country. We ask that you pray for smooth transitions for us. We had our mandatory visa run (we have to leave every six months) in the middle of February, and we ask that you pray with us that there will be no complications whatsoever.

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- Several missionaries experienced health challenges as 2025 began. We are grateful for substantial health for each of them.
- For a strong wave of generosity for God's work as we begin 2025.
- For a growing sense that God is at work in our churches, communities, and world.

Please Pray...

- That the Lord would pour out his Spirit on his children (see Luke 11:13).
- That the Lord would send workers into the harvest from every local congregation (see Luke 10:2).
- That the Lord would make his people One (see John 20:20-23).

EFM Five-Year Goal:

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

Praise God...

- Matt Macy and three others had an exciting trip to Central Africa to think through the logistics of missionary sending, training, and collaboration with Friends in Rwanda and Burundi.
- For new potential missionaries who have raised their hand, saying, "I'm praying about going!"
- For a growing conviction that God will use each local gathering of followers (the local church!) to complete his work both here in local neighborhoods and around the world.
- Dan Cammack returned home from his visit to the Philippines and Thailand. It was good to spend time in fellowship and ministry with leaders in both countries.

Please Pray...

- For local congregations to raise up workers from their midst in answer to the prayer for God to send workers into the Harvest. On a national level, we are praying for at least 10-14 households.
- For financial support for several missionary households who are raising funds so that they can either deploy or return to their field of work.
- For people to pray for the Luke 10 Initiative. This work we are called to do will only happen as we pray. May many others join us!

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. Prayer points and the link for the gathering will be sent a few days before the event. If you would like to participate in this gathering, you can sign up for it at <https://friendsmission.com/five-year-goal-pray/>.

From Tony and Agi Frei Serving in Hungary

Praise God...

- We found a great plasterer, and a great auxiliary worker, so we could start to renovate our foundation house. We think that it will be a great opportunity to accommodate our church guests in the future.
- There is a cooperation to renovate our foundation house every Saturday. We always have some volunteer helpers to do it. (It is not always easy to organize!)
- We also have a future plan. If we finish this house renovation, we are going to renovate our church house of Kolked.

Please Pray...

- Some of our co-workers and will attend a leaders conference in Budapest. Please pray for this trip.
- Mary, who was an older lady in our gipsy mission, died a few weeks ago. She was a very kind-hearted woman. Mary raised up and still cared for her 27 years old, disabled and unable to move granddaughter, Vivien. Please, pray for her family and most of all Vivien, to settle her future providence.
- For us, that we can finish our house renovation. We know that our God can give us strength for it.

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj Serving in Nepal

Praise God...

- A CHE vision seminar was held in Bishram-Basti village in Chitwan among the Chepang community. Their pastor is Bijay and he, along with a group of 15 mature adults from their church attended this seminar conducted by Gokarna and Suleman on behalf of the Prudence CLC in Chitwan. They are urging us to move faster and hold a Training of Trainers (ToT) for the same group so that they can conduct the work of CHE by themselves.
- The Jesus film ministry in West Nepal is going well, and many people have come to accept Jesus after watching this film show and listening to the evangelist as he went about doing the work in four areas this month.
- Dinesh, Raj Kumar, Meena, and this group of Chepang believers of the Mudebas church in Chitwan have been so excited after the CHE Trainings and SBD trainings, and seeing the fruits it bears, they now want to evangelize not only in their nearby villages but also in faraway Rukum District among a few families who migrated and are living on the hillsides of Rukum. With some money provided to construct five toilets along with the teaching on health and hygiene in the Mudebas church community, these simple people are so grateful to God for CHE has brought amazing changes in their lives in acknowledging Christ as their Saviour.
- Another CHE Vision Seminar was conducted in Thori in the Parsa district of South Nepal, and we had 16 participants who underwent the CHE training and discipleship classes. Suleman and Raju from the RCC CLC were the main teachers. Please pray that this vision to reach out to Birganj and Parsa districts in South Nepal will bear much fruit as our small band of trainers struggle to reach out to these rural areas with the Gospel using CHE lessons.

Please Pray...

- For the new fellowship started in Nathuni Majhi's house with the help of Ram Prakash in Khoriyā tole. Both these men used to conduct free tuition classes for school children and also for school drop-out kids. The parents of some of these children also came together, requesting prayer and asking to know more about Jesus in this small Musahar village. Ram Prakash and Nathuni were helped in their own lives by gifts from the Christmas catalog funds last year for pig and buffalo farming.
- Asha (Suleman's wife) and Babli (Arun's wife) are enrolled in the BTh course being conducted by EFCN through online classes. Please pray that they will be able to complete all the requirements, which is a big challenge as they also have to take care of their children's education and manage the businesses run by the families for income generation.
- The CLCs in Rautahat and Chitwan are slowly moving forward as planned to make the program successful and adequately supported. Both now operate from a rented place used as an office and now need to be adequately equipped so that they can use the premises as an office as well as a training center for the various programs that have been planned in accordance with the local government's approval.

From Brad and Chelsea Carpenter Serving in Central Africa

Praise God...

- For the great visit to Burundi Friends and an enjoyable leadership handover process there.
- For a great two-day training and conversations with key Rwandan leaders as they prepare to send their own missionaries to South Sudan.
- For Virunga Valley Academy (VVA), as they celebrate their ten-year anniversary. We love our kids' school and are so thankful for their place in our town and in our lives!

Please Pray...

- For healing for Brad's stomach
- For the EFC-Rwanda leaders as they continue to navigate new requirements for worship in church buildings
- For the D for D teams that are nearing the end of the third phase of the D for D process, and preparing to enter into the fourth phase in Rwanda, Burundi, and Congo.

From D.K. and Choity Sarkar
Serving in India
Praise God...

- Our Christmas program was very good. The singing, street program, distribution of New Testaments and booklets were very good. Our pastors and evangelists did a good job. New people started coming to our churches.
- Our Uttarakhand staff, O M Prakash, was in Vellore Medical Hospital for his son Joel. He came back after the thorough check up and treatment. His son is now better. In the month of February had to attend there again for a final check up. He responded well to the medicine.
- After the Christmas program, I went to the ocean for three days with all my staff and their families. We had a very good time there. Some of our staff have never seen the ocean, they are very happy.

Please Pray...

- For our coaching centers. Around 2,000 children are attending these centers. They are receiving good coaching for their school studies as well as their spiritual studies. Let God bless them and their families.
- Some of our children are going to appear in tenth class exams. My granddaughter Rachel will attend the 11th final exam.
- For our next staff meeting. We are finalizing our goal for 2025.

From Pastor Amen Thapa- EFC Nepal
Serving in Nepal
Praise God...

- For evangelism campaigns organized by our Evangelical Friends Churches in different places of Nepal. We were able to evangelize 1,000-plus people, and 30-plus accepted Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior and started coming to church to attend worship service.
- For the public testimonies of baptism of 42 new members of Kathmandu Friends Church in Kathmandu, Dhanwanggaire Friends Church in Chitwan district, and Darang Friends Church in Makwanpur district.
- For the graduation ceremony of our online courses. We had 13 students who graduated from BTh and five students who graduated from MDiv. Praise God for the new session that has already begun with 65 plus students enrolled.

Please Pray...

- For FSTCL and its final classes and plans, which include a trip to Pokhara where we are taking all students and teachers for a three-day retreat and outings with the theme of Day with the Lord, and graduation early next month.
- For Next Generation Leaders with godly visions and gifts of the Holy Spirit so that the church would grow in a higher spiritual realm.
- Pray for discipleship and leadership movement upliftment in our Evangelical Friends Churches of Nepal.

From Edwin and Maria Giron
Serving as the Missions Mobilizers for Hispanic Friends
Praise God...

- For finishing the first round of visits in the MAYM area. We were very blessed and encouraged to feel acceptance, love, and support from so many people.
- For God's care, and protection as we sometimes drove on snowy or icy roads. And for good health!
- For the opportunity to participate in the Mexico Yearly Meeting Central sessions. It always gives us joy and encouragement to see and share with our good friends from Mexico. We continue to push forward with the VM32 project.

Please Pray...

- For our visit to the Indiana Yearly Meeting area in the month of March. Pray that God will open more doors for us, and we will have enough appointment opportunities to encourage more people to join our prayer and financial support team. Pray that we can reach the goal of raising 100% of our support.
- We are moving forward with planning for the Missionary Sending Learning Conference to be held in Guatemala in August. We are excited to have representation from Friends of Latin American Yearly Meetings! Please pray for all those involved in working to make this event possible (people in charge of transportation, lodging, meals, worship, etc.)

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

- We have more people than ever attending the evangelistic/church planting workshops. It's encouraging.
- For ongoing reports of people being born again.
- For couples who are willing to minister together to reach communities. It is not the norm here in Ukraine for pastors and their wives to work together in ministry. One of the requirements for a Center of Hope is that there is a husband and wife team.

Please Pray...

- The turmoil in the country does not cease, Russia does not cease their attacks—they have been more vigorous than ever over the past two months, but we have the hope that people are longing for. Pray for the Center of Hope leaders as they find ways to contact more people in their communities and bring them to a saving knowledge of Christ Jesus.
- For the leaders as they disciple new believers. It is, of course, a critical need, and after you have a dozen or so new converts, it is hard to keep a balance between evangelism and discipleship.
- For Abe and Diane as we continue to seek the Lord's direction in the "storm." Abe has received a request to help and counsel the national youth leader in the evangelical denomination we work with. Pray for Abe as he considers how to come alongside this man to encourage him, help him plan, and help him connect with the young people across the whole country.

From A. and M. A.
Serving in Bangladesh
Praise God...

- That we could start six youth group partnerships with a local disciple-making ministry in January. This is a two-year journey. Pray that these young people will transform so that they will take responsibility for leading their local church.
- We are good in health so far. Both our elder and younger sons are being equipped to better serve the Lord through their lives and deeds.
- That we have done two TOTs in January, one for children's ministry and the other for women's ministry. Pray that these leaders would lead their respected ministry faithfully.

Please Pray...

- An on-field discipleship training and outreach is now going on in one field. We have prayerfully planned some on-field discipleship training and outreach this year. Pray that through these on-field training, young people, as well as local church members, will be motivated, challenged, and equipped to multiply churches in Bangladesh.
- For more pastors, evangelists, and pioneers to start church plantation ministry in different parts of the country. We are seriously lacking workers for harvesting.
- That all members of our group receive the power of the Holy Spirit and spiritual gifts. Pray that many signs and wonders will be seen, that many people come to Christ, and many new ministry fields open in Bangladesh.

**From Kathi Perry
Serving in Ireland**

Praise God...

- For good health! Not something I take for granted anymore.
- For the running of three groups each week - which feels like a restoration of *"the years the locusts have eaten"*. (Joel 2:25)
- For opportunities to connect with Irish Friends and encourage young Friends leaders.
- I am thankful for consistent attendance at the Mum and Baby group and growth in the toddler group. I am also thankful for the crossover from mum and baby/toddler groups to Bible study.

Please Pray...

- January/February have been heavy with losses of and for loved ones, as well as diagnoses of cancer for other loved ones. Please pray for comfort, peace, strength, and opportunities to walk alongside.
- I am enjoying the "Training for the Ministry of Spiritual Companionship" (spiritual direction). Pray for me as I train one intense weekend each month, and for those I can come alongside.
- Please pray that the baby and toddler groups would provide community, support, and a safe space for young mums to make connections and ask questions.
- For clear direction regarding the use of Godly Play and perhaps starting up Little Friends and Family gatherings again. Pray for the right timing and support from young families if it is to go ahead.