



Evangelical Friends Mission

August 2025 Prayer Letter

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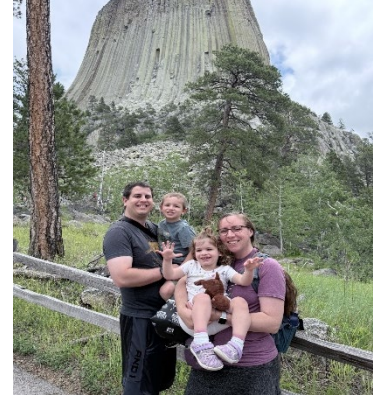
Our purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

The Liddell Family | Preparing to Serve in The Balkans

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He Who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works." Hebrew 10:23-24

In June, we moved out of our house and left for Idaho, visiting several churches there in July and enjoying sweet fellowship with individuals. Then we headed east and were encouraged by our time at the yearly meeting sessions for Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region. As we were driving east for those sessions, our house went on the market, we accepted an offer, and we are now under contract. The next few weeks will be spent visiting seven churches and several loved ones around the East Coast. It is easy to get caught up in the busy, but we opened with this passage and close our presentations with it for a reason.

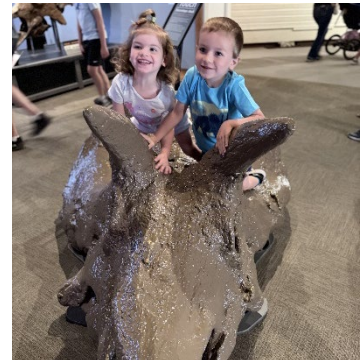
First, we pray this for each church and person we visit; that you would both hold fast and hold out your confession of hope without wavering, holding to and introducing your neighbors to the faithful one who promised. Known locally for the way you love and the way you live out that love.



Second, we need that prayer. As we visit churches and as we go to the Balkans, we want to live this. Local pastors and missionaries reported that many workers come into this region and leave within two years due to discouragement, but that doors of opportunity open if you stay past that point. We need prayer to hold fast to our confession of hope, holding out the faithful one, living love.

But most of all, we pray this for the people in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro, that they will gain a confession of hope and will hold it fast, that they will know the faithful one who promised. That a place known for bloodshed and deep ethnic hatred will be known for the way its people love one another.

"And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love." May this be true in our churches, here and around the world!



Praise God...

- In the chaos of moving, I (Jonelle) was feeling quite stressed. Driving a load of stuff somewhere, we passed a field and Alex got excited and insistent until I looked, "Look, Mommy, it's soft green grass in a meadow by a little stream! Just like Jesus gives! He makes our hearts quiet!" He was referencing a children's version of Psalm 23 and has applied it a few times, in a few places. Praise God that this little disciple is seeing God's gifts around him.
- For the body of Christ with which we have been privileged to fellowship. They are not just loving us well, but we are getting glimpses of the ways that God is using each local body to shine where they are and make his name great. It is a delight to see!
- For two potential teammates, who are praying about their role in the Balkans and are taking steps to go!

Please Pray...

- We are driving hundreds of miles around the East Coast, then back to San Diego, where we will base with Fred's parents, then to Colorado for a month of training, then back to San Diego. Pray for safety on the road.
- For those potential teammates as they continue to discern God's leading. And if God does continue to lead them to this field, pray for unity as a team.
- "Jesus, I miss (grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, friends, my house, my cats). I'm sad. Jesus, you stay with me?" We are hearing that prayer regularly from the backseat, as Alex processes goodbyes. Usually followed by "mommy, I prayed, and Jesus is with me, now I'm happy!" Please pray with us, as our kids navigate this season of change and goodbyes, that even when they aren't happy, they will know Jesus is with them. May we all be so quick to cast our burdens on the Lord.

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- For the annual conferences of evangelically-minded Friends that took place in July in Alaska, Ohio, Kansas, Oregon, Iowa, and Indiana. We are grateful for the fellowship they enjoyed as well as encouragement to keep serving the Lord at home and abroad.
- For coaches and Missionary Care Teams that are helping to support our missionaries on a month-by-month basis. They provide encouragement to the missionaries and find ways to support them in practical ways. Currently, there are 15 coaches and 6 teams (other teams are in the process of being developed).

Please Pray...

- For Molly Morton (Ireland) and J. G. (Middle East) as they head back to their places of service after a time of rest and deputation in the U.S.
- For Edwin and Maria Giron (Missions Mobilizers for Hispanic Friends), and the Fred and Jonelle Liddell family (heading to the Balkans), as they continue their deputations.
- For the coaches and Missionary Care Teams mentioned above, that they will be effective in their support of the missionaries

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 completion of the EFM Summer Internship in Rwanda, Burundi, and Tanzania.
- For the safe return of those who participated in the 10:2 Prayer Trip to NE Brazil.
- For the Future Missionary Retreat that was held in Mexico City. Edwin and Maria Giron gave leadership to the retreat with support from David Thomas and leaders from the two-yearly meetings in Mexico. Twenty-two future missionaries from Mexico and four from Bolivia participated in the retreat.

Please Pray...

- For the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the harvest fields. At this point, we need at least thirteen more missionary households to go to the seven new fields that have been approved by the EFM Board.
- Continue to pray for the three young adults who completed the EFM Summer Internship in Central Africa. They are Judah Vore (Indiana Yearly Meeting), Grace Anderson (Northwest Yearly Meeting), and Nathan Macy (Mid-America Yearly Meeting). Pray specifically for the next steps in their journeys of discerning God's call for their lives.
- For the Latin American Missions Sending-Learning Conference that will take place in Guatemala, August 22-30. It looks like there will be more than fifty Friends leaders participating in the conference. They represent ten yearly meetings in Latin America. There will be others participating from the U.S. and, hopefully, a few from other continents. Pray for safe travel and also for our hosts in Guatemala. Pray that the event will spur Latin American Friends to send more missionaries and start more new fields around the world.

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 Abe and Diane Bible

Serving in Ukraine

Praise God...

- We had a very good time visiting many churches and friends. We especially enjoyed the EFC-ER Yearly Meeting missions banquet. The most beautiful thing is how many people tell us they are praying for us! Indeed, in that there is power!
- Diane had some health struggles, and travel and meetings have been extremely intense with the weariness that goes with that, but now we are entering into a better-paced season as we close our time in Ohio. And have even planned a three-day getaway! Praise the Lord for his rest.
- We get reports that several public testimonies of baptisms are taking place in the Centers of Hope. Many people are making decisions for the Lord, but this step is an extra confirmation of their decision to follow Christ. We rejoice!

Please Pray...

- We will still be speaking at four churches in August, as well as finalizing some personal things (bank accounts, wills, deposits, car title transfer). Pray that we will finish this trip well and wrap up details so that we can leave in peace!
- We fly on August 19. Of course, pray that connections and luggage, etc., all go smoothly, including our train trip back into Ukraine. But also pray that if we encounter some difficulties, we will do it with grace. God doesn't always just "erase" the difficulties in life!
- For the Centers of Hope (church plants), that they will make use of the many extra opportunities for outreach during the summer months, so that all 30 Centers will see souls saved and new believers becoming grounded in their faith

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj

Serving in Nepal

Praise God...

- All our staff's children and other children from our church communities in Chitwan, Cha'pur, and Bardia were successful in their exams and have been promoted to the next year of academics. Some are making entry into college-level courses and were presented with laptops and other useful gifts by their churches as they plan and pursue their future courses.
- Angita Rai, who has done CHE, Discipling, and Small Business Trainings, has helped start a children's fellowship in Cha'pur. In six months, ten young people from this group made a public testimony of baptism led by Suleman and his father, Pastor Tul Bdr. Pray that they will be led and guided by the Holy Spirit as they get involved in their church and other community activities among non-believers.
- Ps. Raju Theeng from Gaidatar village and Ps. Dinesh Praja from Mudebas have been trained in the use of the projector equipment provided. In the last month, they have shown the Jesus film movie to the Chepang, Rai, and Tamang communities living in and around their village churches and have had a good response from new seekers.

Please Pray...

- Rita Rai of Kupantol is paralyzed on one side of her body but is able to walk with a stick. Pray for her to recover full function of all four limbs and share her testimony about her faith in Jesus with the church before everyone. She and her two daughters were provided with assistance to help build a small toilet within their house.
- Many snake bite cases are being brought to our CHE Trainer Arun in Aurahi, Janakpur, and he is helping to diagnose and treat some of them successfully with anti-venom. Three young people from this community also made a public testimony of baptism and testified about their newfound faith in Jesus. Lachhminiya and two other girls (daughters of Sara, who passed away last month due to postoperative complications, and sisters of Anju and Reena).
- For the new learning center (community tuition center) in Chetnagar Birtapur (Cha'pur), which is run by Ranjita Rai and has enrolled 15 students of the Chamber (Dalit) community. We now have approximately 227 children attending regular tuition, and we help provide books and stationery items for their use. The CLCs contribute a nominal amount to support the nine teachers in this effort.

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

- One of our staff members, Mr. Suvankar Halder's father, had a heart attack last week. He is a daily laborer. We were all praying. Choity had a contact with a doctor in a big hospital. Once Choity had the opportunity to share about the love of God. She contacted that doctor. The doctor arranged everything for Suvankar's father's operation free of cost. Now his father is healed. Praise the Lord.
- Another staff member named Debdas Karmakar is working among the Dalit people. His wife suddenly needed an operation on her stomach. It was very urgent. By the grace of the Lord Jesus, she was admitted in a hospital and got the operation. Now she is OK.
- One leader, Siju Thomas, who is working for the persecution relief, is in Kolkata. He offered a special seminar at Kolkata for the Pastors and Christian workers. Our leaders attended the seminar. It was very good.

Please Pray...

- At the end of this month, our Assistant Director, Pastor Prafulla Hembram, and our senior staff, Tapas Dhara, will visit our Ministry in Uttarakhand. Uttarakhand is a state where Christians are persecuted. Please pray for their visit.
- We took a special program to preach the gospel to the illiterate people with an audio Bible machine. Please pray for this program.
- Please pray for our Annual Camp 2025. It will be held at Gosaba Emmanuel Hostel from August 29 to September 2. Most of our church leaders and members will attend this camp.

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

- The wedding of Csilla and Zoltán was so blessed. We continue to pray for them that our God bless their marriage.
- Our foundation house's renovation is going well. Sometimes, it's hard to find physical help, but the Lord always provides.
- We can organize our Children's Day this August again. We are thankful for it.

Please Pray...

- For our Children's Day in Tolna. We invited a lot of children from unbelieving families. It's a good chance to give a testimony.
- For new faces in our mission in Hungary and abroad too. Unfortunately, there are a lot of 'empty' chairs in our churches. People are so closed to God's message.
- For a new caretaker of the Tolna's church house (cleaning, etc.) The previous caretakers are no longer taking on the work, so we need new workers from God.

SPECIAL REQUEST: Pray for the Elisha Generation
Director of Evangelical Friends Church- Asia

Elisha Generation was born out of a deep burden to see young adults (ages 18–35) grow in faith, leadership, and mission.

We are now preparing for our next event, taking place on October 13–16, 2025 in Dhulikhel, Nepal.

Why Elisha Generation?

A Double Portion – Just as Elisha received a double portion of Elijah's spirit, we are praying for a fresh anointing and renewed passion in our young leaders.

Raising Missional Leaders – Many young adults are moving across Asia for work or study. We believe this is a strategic mission opportunity to equip them to live out the Gospel wherever they go.

Global Connection – We want to bring together young Friends from around the world to grow in Christ and boldly share His message of hope.

For more information or to get involved, visit them online at:
elishagen.missiong3.com