



# Evangelical Friends Mission April 2026 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.

## Looking Ahead with Gratitude and Purpose by Kathi Perry serving in Ireland



Preaching at the Nazarene Church

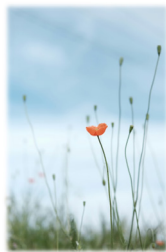
Dear Friends,

It's difficult to believe, but I am 63 years old. After 24+ years I am now one of EFM's senior missionaries on the field (maybe THE senior missionary on the field?). I love my work and I am so grateful to be in Ireland. Naturally, we (myself and EFM) have spent a good bit of

time considering when and what retirement will look like for me.

In October I was able to meet with a financial planner, and he suggested that I work until I am 70. This felt like a relief because I do love my work and any time before 70 sounds too soon!

In recent months I have begun a new outreach called Sólás Café (see the photo here). Already, I have seen people come in weighed down with grief, who leave saying, "I feel lighter." In the Fall I hope to offer "Grief Share" (which some may be familiar with) through the local church. This ministry is something that speaks to my heart – both with my training as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, a hospice social worker, and my own personal experiences with grief.



### Sólás ~ Grief Café

When: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month; starting November 2025  
Where: Greystones Nazarene Community Church, A63YD27  
Time: 10:30-12

Sólás Café is a free service open to adults in our community, and surrounding areas, who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

What to expect: A relaxed and comfortable atmosphere. There is no formal agenda or therapeutic format; the conversations are led by the group members.

For more information contact Kathi at [kathiperry@mac.com](mailto:kathiperry@mac.com)

On May 18, I'll be traveling to the U.S. for a season of deputation. With retirement on the horizon, this will likely be my final extended time reconnecting in person. I'm looking forward to sharing stories of what

God has been doing in Ireland and spending time with many of you who have been such an important part of this journey. Would you pray that this time would be meaningful and fruitful – that God would guide each conversation and continue to provide what is needed for the work ahead? I'm deeply grateful for the faithful partnership that has made it possible to serve here for so many years.

Recently, while reading scripture, two phrases stood out to me. The first was from Mark 10:45 where Jesus said, "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." I may not have done this perfectly, but this has been my desire in Ireland.

The second phrase was from John 19. Jesus is on the cross and in v.28-30 it says, "... knowing that everything was already completed... he gave up his life." What would it be like to know that "everything was already completed"?

What can I do in these final years to cultivate ministry that will last, and then, (figuratively speaking!) give up my life? These are my thoughts as I contemplate one more term. Pray that God would work through me, to love and serve the people in Ireland.

With so much gratitude for your faithfulness,  
Kathi Perry



In January I was able to visit California to celebrate my Mom's 90th birthday



Visiting a young friend

## **From the EFM Office**

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

- For the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ that opens the way to salvation and a new life in him for those who believe.
- For the conversations that took place in Central Africa between EFM leaders and leaders of the yearly meetings in Rwanda and Burundi. We look forward to seeing how the Lord of the harvest will use those conversations to shape the starting of new mission fields in Africa.
- For the Small Business Development (SBD) training that took place in Nepal in March.

### ***Please pray...***

- For Scott and Andrea Sward along with their sons, Zachary and Samuel, as they transition from Cambodia to Southern California. Pray especially for all the adjustments that will take place as they make their home in the U.S. and also for a clearer picture of what the next chapter of ministry looks like.
- For EFM's workers and partners who are affected by the war in the Middle East.
- For the EFM Board as they discern who EFM's next Executive Director will be.

### **The EFM Goal:**

**To send teams of missionaries to at least 7 new fields.**

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

- For those who are contacting EFM to learn about opportunities for missionary service (and the process for becoming missionaries).
- For those who are actually taking steps towards becoming missionaries with EFM.
- For the eight yearly meetings (regions) in the U.S. who are working together to send missionaries to the new fields.

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

- For the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the harvest fields.
- For the discernment process EFM and some of its international partners (such as Mexico Yearly Meeting and Rwanda Yearly Meeting) are engaged in regarding the deployment of multinational missionary teams to new fields.
- For the Fred and Jonelle Liddell family as they continue to adjust to living in Croatia, study the language, and form relationships with neighbors.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** Join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10-11 AM PST for our Luke 10:2 Gathering via Zoom. If you would like to participate in this gathering, sign up at <https://friendsmission.com/five-year-goal-pray>.

## **DK and Choity Sarkar**

### **Serving in India**

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

- We thank God that Miss Kalyani Halder's operation was successfully completed, and the results are good.
- Despite the virus outbreak, our children were able to take their final (XII) exams, and they shared that the exams went very well.
- We are receiving a good response to our Holy Week program.

The plans and preparations have been completed

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

- One of our members, Bholanath Samanta, is awaiting surgery for gallbladder stones. He is one of our main leaders. Please pray for his operation and a speedy recovery.
- We have taken significant steps in preparation for our Holy Week program, including organizing open meetings, public testimony of baptisms, and new Bible study centers. Please pray for God's guidance and blessings over these efforts.
- We are planning a two-day vocational program for all our staff following the Holy Week program. Please pray for its success and meaningful impact.

## **Molly Morton**

### **Serving in Ireland**

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

- Our church hosted all the Nazarene churches on the island of Ireland at the end of January and it was an amazing picture of the kingdom of God here on Earth. We are trying to create more opportunities to gather together as Nazarene churches of Ireland.
- My family has successfully sold my father's house after his passing last year. My family in California put a huge amount of work into preparing the house for sale. We are happy with the result and glad to have done a good job with the sale.
- I am grateful for a few close friendships here in Ireland with women who are supportive, fun, funny, faithful, and love me for me.

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

- Please pray for our churches together ecumenical group as we walk in the annual Greystones St Patricks Day parade. I am so grateful for this group and excited to reflect a unified Christian witness in our town.
- Ireland celebrates Mother's Day this coming weekend (15 March), and I will "celebrate" American Mother's Day as well. Please pray for me as these days hit differently every year. I am aware that grief is different now that I have lost both parents. Please pray for me during this season of grief.
- Please pray for our church leadership as we lead our congregation during the busy time of Easter. Pray that we would be able to focus on Christ.

## **Brad and Chelsea Carpenter**

### **Serving in Central Africa**

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

- For a wonderful visit from David Thomas, for the fellowship and encouragement and coaching that he was able to give in various groups.
- For God's blessing over EFC-Rwanda as they discerned and chose the leadership team for the next season.
- That Brad had a refreshing retreat with other missionary men who serve in this region, and made some important connections for the time ahead.

### ***Please Pray***

- For the D for D teams in Rwanda, Burundi, and DR Congo, that they will continue to take effective steps forward in empowering the groups they are discipling.

- For the missions vision to continue to grow in EFC-Rwanda and EFC-Burundi and for the Lord's blessing on the leaders as they fundraise, strategize, and as they work with EFM to develop a healthy multi-national partnership.
- For peace in the region.

### **Fred and Jonelle Liddell**

#### **Serving in Croatia**

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

- We arrived safely and were given grace in the eyes of several staff and officials. Some of our bags were delayed, but all ended up arriving and none of the contents was damaged. We are very thankful for this smooth move, and that God provided an apartment the week before we left that we were able to move into immediately.
- You were praying, and we've been praying about language school. All the nearby preschools were full, but God provided a Croatian nanny who the kids connected with well. We are thankful that they have someone who cares for them, who can teach them Croatian, while still being in the emotional safety of home (with frequent trips to nearby playgrounds!).

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

- For all of us, especially the kids, as we move from the unsettledness to being settled in this new place. Pray for peace and joy in the middle of stress, for grace with each other and with ourselves, that we will draw nearer to God individually and as a family through this process. And please pray for sleep.
- God has provided a means for all of us to learn Croatian, please pray that we will all learn quickly.
- As we move past the tasks of settling in and the kids' emotional needs decrease, we are building new routines and hoping to build new friendships. Please pray that God will lead us to those who know him and those who don't, that we will be ministers of his grace. That we gain relationships that last.

### **Edwin and Maria Giron**

#### **Serving as EFM Missions Mobilizers for Hispanic Friends**

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

- For the truly blessed and productive time we had attending the annual sessions of the Mexico Friends Yearly Meeting. This time of fellowship truly lifts our spirits and recharges our hearts with energy. It was very encouraging to see the efforts, obedience, and perseverance of all the Friends pastors in Mexico—who, in a country facing difficult times due to drug cartel wars, they continue to serve the Lord with passion and enthusiasm. For the motivation of the Mexico Yearly Meeting to press forward to fulfill the goal of the MV32 Vision that God gave them to accomplish: A Friends ministry in each of Mexico's 32 states by the year 2032.
- Over the past few months, we have held calls and meetings with Hispanic Friends leaders from various Yearly Meetings who are seeking mentorship or encouragement. We are grateful to God for using us in this way, enabling us to serve other leaders by offering exhortation, motivation, and counsel.
- Edwin was invited to lead an introductory workshop on discipleship development for the men of Bayshore Friends

Church. Leading this type of training is a deep passion of Edwin's, so he felt very blessed and encouraged by the good turnout.

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

- We continue with the planification and collaborating with David Thomas to provide a 4-hour, 4-day online DforD training in Spanish during the first week in May. This is exciting, and we are grateful for this opportunity—one that we know will benefit many ministries through this valuable resource. Please pray that there will be no opposition or obstacles for those wishing to take this training, and that we will have a good turnout.
- We moved to South Houston earlier this year, but almost immediately afterward, we had to leave for a month and a half to travel through Central America and Mexico. Now we are back again, and we ask for your prayers for a quick adjustment to our new base. May we find a suitable home of our own—one that allows us to reach out to many more people and to welcome family and friends who wish to visit us.
- To maintain a balance—with wisdom and grace—across all the various tasks of our ministry serving with EFM (encouraging, coaching, training, counseling, sending, etc), always in obedience and for the glory of our Lord Jesus. We also desire to be a blessing and of service to the Bayshore church, and to collaborate with MAYM. May God continue to grant us health and good spirit, so that we may go on serving him with passion and energy. And let him take care of the results and fruits.

### **José Olivas**

#### **Serving among the Shuar people in Ecuador**

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

- I am so happy and grateful to God because his grace has been made manifest in the work in Yaas Nunka; more children are attending classes and coming to know our Lord Jesus Christ.
- I praise and thank God for the Juwa family, who live in Nunkui; they have been a great blessing to my life and ministry, and their children are accompanying me on mission trips to other communities.
- I praise God for his goodness and grace in opening doors within the communities to work with Shuar youth.

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

- For wisdom and organizational strategies to work with Shuar youth.
- To acquire land where, in the future, the first Friends church would be built. To see many Shuar gathered together, praising and worshipping the Lord.
- That God would provide the means for me to reach the jungle communities where he has opened doors to share his truth.



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