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Hope Community Church, Olympia, Washington
Affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America

How to Pray for Missionaries

Our missionaries need our prayers. Here are some general guidelines you can use to focus your prayers. Each month "Our Missionary Voice" contains prayer requests from missionaries and ministries supported by Hope Community Church. Our hope is that you will use these suggestions for praying for our missionaries during Prayer Week and throughout the year. A list of the missionaries and ministries supported by Hope Community Church is included at the end of each issue of Our Missionary Voice.

Pray for:

- 1) **The missionary's own relationship to God** - *2 Peter 3:18, Colossians 1:9-14.*
Pray that they would be abiding in Christ and feeding on God's Word, have a deep prayer life, have time for worship & fellowship, be filled with the Holy Spirit, not be depending on their own efforts, and have victory over Satan.
- 2) **The missionary's physical and emotional life** - *2 Thessalonians 2:16-17.*
Pray for good health; for safety; for deliverance from depression, discouragement, and loneliness; contentment in all things; and for financial, physical, spiritual, and emotional needs to be met.
- 3) **The missionary's family** - *Ephesians 5:21.*
Pray for a strong marriage, for children and their safety and education, for wisdom in parenting, for housing, and for family in the US, especially elderly parents, children in college or living on their own.
- 4) **The missionary's ability to communicate** - *2 Timothy 4:2.*
Pray for ability to learn the language and understand the culture, that they will adapt to the culture and show cultural sensitivity, for effectiveness in communicating the gospel, and for time and discipline to communicate with supporters and others at home.
- 5) **The missionary's ministry** - *2 Thessalonians 3:1-3.*
Pray for open doors, for boldness, for empowerment by the Holy Spirit, for discernment and understanding in decisions that are made, for effective use of time, and for God to show where the harvest is ripe.
- 6) **The missionary's interpersonal relationships** - *John 17:21.*
Pray for relationships with fellow missionaries and national workers; and for unity, grace, good communication, and understanding. Pray against Satan sowing the spirit of discord.
- 7) **The missionary's country of service** - *Colossians 4:2-5, Psalm 2:8.*
Pray for political stability and peace, the government and its leaders, for freedom to evangelize, for a favorable climate for the gospel, and for visas and work permits.

**OUR FRIENDS IN A
RESTRICTED ACCESS COUNTRY**

Please continue to pray for this couple and the nationals they have worked with as the authorities continue their investigations into the activities of those thought to be Christians. Pray especially for the nationals who are Christians that they would not deny Christ in the process. They are so used to hiding things from the government that the temptation to lie is strong. Praise that the authorities are not able to stop the work of the Holy Spirit as people are still seeking the Lord and becoming Christians, even though many activities have ceased for the time being. Pray for wisdom for this couple in how to proceed.

**FRED & AUDREY OTTO
BRAZIL**

Fred & Audrey attended meetings in December with the Pacaas Novos tribal church leaders. There are about 15 Pacaas Novos villages and each one has a local church. The biggest need they have is for someone to disciple the church leaders. The church leaders want the help so they are receptive. But time is short and there are others already trying to move in and fill this role with the intent to destroy or lead astray the churches. Pray for the workers that are needed to fill this need.

The Jamamadi people are now in the process of hearing the chronological Christmas story in these next few weeks. They are very excited and interested. Pray for the missionary, Marcio Pimentel, as he gives the Bible lessons to them.

**MARK & NAOMI HALE
POLAND**

On December 17th, the Kid's Club at the Hale's church presented a Christmas play dealing with the true meaning of Christmas at a local school. Afterwards the Hales passed out Christmas packages to children who have been identified by school authorities as the most in need. On December 20th, the Hales hosted a similar performance at their church for the Kid's Clubs attendees and their parents. On another date they shared the Good News as well as Christmas packages in two local different orphanages.

Mark & Naomi have been very encouraged that God is obviously working in the lives of several people who have been in their prayers for many years. Pawel, the son of one of the women in their church, had a dream about Jesus which motivated him to stop drinking. He continues to abstain from alcohol and has started reading his Bible, but has yet to make a decision for Christ. Please pray for his salvation.

Daniel, the son of another woman in the church, gave his life to Christ as a young teen and was baptized. However, he has completely walked away from the faith. He is now in his early twenties and has recently faced the crisis of breaking up with his girlfriend. He has indicated he now wants to come back into fellowship with the church and has started attending again. Please pray that his heart will be captured completely by Jesus and his return will be real and permanent.

One woman they know, Beata, has been volunteering at the Kid's Club for years because her mentally challenged son, Tomek, loves to be there. She has heard the gospel many times, but has never responded. Recently through a series of tragedies, she has become more open. She and Tomek have started attending church and a Bible study that Naomi leads. Beata has many challenges, including the fact that she too is somewhat mentally challenged and can't read. Please pray that they will receive God's love and salvation.

**MARK & JAN HALSTROM
CREATIVE ACCESS COUNTRIES**

In January, Mark & Jan Halstrom will be traveling to Bangladesh and India to meet with field missionaries and local church partners. They have connected with like-minded mission agencies over the last few months under the guidance of the ReachGlobal (EFCA) leadership. Pray that God will guide their discussions and survey work to determine the right agency to work with. They want a good ministry fit for their gifts and experience to see God reach Asians for Christ and the church to grow spiritually for effective witness. These other agencies have ministries that include church planting, agriculture, education and literacy, business development, and compassion ministries to widows and families in poverty.

In 2012, the Halstroms will need an additional \$800 per month to cover their support needs and also upcoming overseas travel. One-time gifts are also welcome, especially in light of the trips overseas. Mark & Jan are thankful for everyone who has given sacrificially in the past and are trusting God for the year to come. Online donations can be made at <http://www.efca.org/>, just click on the DONATE button on left side. After the popup window opens, designate: Mark Halstrom 1464. Donations can also be made by post office mail: Donor Services EFCA. 901 East 78th Street Minneapolis, MN 55420. Checks should be made out to the EFCA and their names should **not** be written on the check. Instead write M-1464 on the memo line and it will be deposited into their account.

**LOIS McMARTIN
MISSIONARY MEMBER CARE**

Lois spent most of November and December catching up on desk work, posting to member care's internal website for missionaries, responding to the needs that arose, and preparing for January meetings. Her member care team responds to a wide diversity of complex needs. Please continue to pray that the team will be alert as to the true nature of those needs. Pray that they will be fully equipped to serve the missionaries and meet their needs. Her financial statement showed that she ended the year with a \$7000 shortfall. Please pray for this need. Online donations can be made at <http://www.efca.org/>, just click on the DONATE button on left side. After the popup window opens, designate: Lois McMartin 1441. Donations can also be made by post office mail: Donor Services EFCA. 901 East 78th Street Minneapolis, MN 55420. Checks should be made out to the EFCA and her name should **not** be written on the check. Instead write #1441 on the memo line and it will be deposited into her account.

**STEVE & CAROL LYONS
TANZANIA**

Two of the second-year students at the teacher's college who put their faith in Jesus earlier in 2011 were baptized in November. They gave clear testimony to their faith in front of the Burundi church, which planned an unforgettable day at the beach. A group of the student's friends from school came along to witness this testimony of their faith.

The nine second-year students whom Steve has been discipling went on a "Missions Vision trip" in December to the village of Mzenga, home to a church planting team made up of the Tanner family, Monica Miller and Sonya Dilworth. While on the trip, Steve and Tim Tanner taught them about cross cultural living, language learning, God's mission of redemption, and more. They learned about impacting their host culture through agriculture, education, and basic medical knowledge. The students had an opportunity to see the local grade school and meet with the principal, who is very excited about the prospect of several new teachers, especially teachers who *want* to be there. Here are a few comments gleaned from the student's reports:

- "God's plan for the world began before creation! - And I'm part of that plan! Wow!"

- “Being a missionary is different than I first thought! It’s important to live with the people and become part of their daily lives.”
- “These people don’t seem to work together to improve their lives and their village. They aren’t depending on God, and even salvation becomes an issue for them because they are afraid of being rejected by their families.”
- “Showing God’s love in the way we relate to these people is the only way to reach them. They need to understand who God is and who Jesus is.”
- God’s word hasn’t yet reached this tribe. The priority before us is to pray for them.”
- One of the students, whose father left his family when he was very young, told Steve: “I watched Tim and how he treats his children, and I learned how I need to treat my children when I get married.”

**LINDA SAUKE
ENHANCE - USA**

Pray for Linda Sauke as she prepares to facilitate two different classes in January, one of them for the first time. Pray for the right mix of students in both classes. There is still room in the Kingdom Expansion 101 class. Go to <http://www.efca.org/ke101> for more information.

Map of Missionary Locations



Missionaries Supported by Hope Community Church

Missions Project – Collection of Bibles

The Missions Team will be collecting used Bibles in January for donation to other people or organizations that can use them or distribute them. There will be marked bins in both the upstairs and downstairs lobbies of the church. More details to follow in the bulletin.

Dates to Remember

- Jan 12-30 – Mark & Jan Halstrom travel to Bangladesh and India
- Late Jan 2012 – MCT trip to New Orleans, LA
- Spring 2012 – MCT trip to Sendai, Japan to repair Takayama Guest House
- Summer 2012 – MCT to put new roof on Charter Oak Church parsonage

Our Missionaries Around the World

<u>Missionaries</u>	<u>Sending Organization</u>	<u>Country or Function</u>
Megan Bodeutsch	Hope Community Church	South Korea
Mark & Naomi Hale	International Messengers	Poland
Nathan Jacobs	Missionary Construction Team	USA & Around the World
Mark & Jan Halstrom	TouchGlobal (EFCA)	Creative Access Countries
Kyle & Nancy Herr	AWANA	SW Washington/ NW Oregon
Vance & Carol Johnson	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Philippines
Steve & Carol Lyons	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Tanzania
Lois McMartin	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	ENHANCE - Missionary Care
Fred & Audrey Otto	New Tribes Mission	Brazil
Linda Sauke	ReachGlobal (EFCA)	Outreach English & Resource Dev
Greg Smith	Evergreen Students for Christ	Olympia, WA
Michael & Rina Vanderpoel	SEND International	Japan
Our Un-named Friends	BEE World	Restricted Access Country

Mission Organizations Also Supported

Child Evangelism Fellowship, Care Net Pregnancy Center of Thurston County, Evergreen Family Friendship Services, Olympia Union Gospel Mission, Salvation Army.

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