

# Daily Prayer Notes

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## 1<sup>st</sup> CHAD *1 Chron 20*

Praise the Lord that **Claire** and **Dan Rose** and children arrived safely in Chad. They ask prayer for: “patience and grace with ourselves, and with one another, as we navigate the significant changes that come with living in Chad.”

## 2<sup>nd</sup> N. AMERICA *1 Chron 21*

Japanese Ministries Interns **Paul** and **Alexa Fraser** and their two sons are attending a missionary training conference in Colorado (July 18-August 13<sup>th</sup>). Continue to pray for God’s leading for them and that this conference will help prepare and equip them for possible future ministry in Japan.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> CHAD *1 Chron 22*

**Paul** and **Teresa Szobody** returned to Chad mid-July. Pray for new Chadian student families of the Lord’s choice to be called and raised up for training as missionaries.

## 4<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA *1 Chron 23*

Today, Japanese Ministries in Seattle is hosting a Talk Time event for about 50 International Students. **Roger** and **Sue Olson** ask prayer that there will be enough volunteers to host well, and that the students will sense God’s love for them through the staff and volunteers.

## 5<sup>th</sup> CHAD *1 Chron 24*

**David** and **Sonja Narvesen** ask prayer for **Ila**, a young man with a serious infection causing him to lose 40% of the skin on his hand and forearm. Pray for his total healing, and for their visits together as Ila comes for cleaning of the infected area, and as David and Sonja pray with him.

## 6<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA *1 Chron 25*

Please pray for safety for **Matt** and **Christina Smith** and family during travels to Arizona, Colorado, and Kansas this month. Pray for good visits with family, friends, and churches as they prepare to leave for Chad in September.

## 7<sup>th</sup> TAIWAN *1 Chron 26*

**Ben** and **Sara Hosch** and family have returned to Taiwan from their three-month home assignment. Pray for their children’s adjustments back to school and for Feng Jia University to open to the public so they can build relationships with students.

## 8<sup>th</sup> CHAD *1 Chron 27*

Pray for **Timothy Webb**, as he manages the Lutheran Welcome Center while **Jeremy** and **Sallee Stanton** are on home assignment. May the Center continue to be a place of rest, renewal and gathering for missionaries in Chad.

**9<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA** *1 Chron 28*

Pray for **Matt and Christina Smith's** shipment as their belongings make their way to Chad. Pray that everything arrives in good condition and on time.

**10<sup>th</sup> JAPAN** *1 Chron 29*

**Dean and Linda Bengtson** ask for prayer for **Pastor Haruya Itoh** and a local musician friend, **Morioka-san**, who are performing at the neighborhood summer festival today. Pray for Pastor Haruya as he continues making friends in the neighborhood.

**11<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA** *Psalms 54 - 55*

Pray for **Ethan and Sandy Christofferson** as they are on home assignment this summer. Pray for safety in their travels, meaningful presentations, and good interactions with family, friends, and supporters.

**12<sup>th</sup> CHAD** *Psalms 56 - 57*

Pray for strong rains throughout August. June came and went with very little rain, raising concerns about famine.

**13<sup>th</sup> WORLD** *Psalms 58 - 59*

68.5 million people have been forced to leave their homes worldwide, 25.4 million have left their country as refugees, 3.1 million are seeking asylum and can never return home. Pray for God's people to reach the displaced people of the world with the gospel of hope.

**14<sup>th</sup> TAIWAN** *Prov 26*

August 15 - 17, 2022 is a retreat with the Chinese LB pastors. May those who attend enjoy fellowship in God's Word, encourage one another, and strengthen their bonds in working together.

**15<sup>th</sup> CHAD** *Prov 27*

**Claire and Dan Rose** ask prayer for the Lord's peace and confidence for **Ashley (9)** and **Austin (7)** as they begin the school year at a local English-speaking Christian school tomorrow.

**16<sup>th</sup> JAPAN** *James 1*

**Dean and Linda Bengtson** ask prayer for Ishinomaki House of Hope's purchase of land for parking. Praise God that the Japan LB Church recognizes this need and is granting an interest free loan! Please pray for God's provision of funds for repaying the loan.

**17<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA** *James 2*

**Ethan Christofferson** is discipling three college students in Taiwan via Zoom. Pray that they will hunger for God's Word and grow spiritually, and that they will find a good church in the university town where they are living.

**18<sup>th</sup> CHAD** *James 3*

Praise the Lord that **Paul and Teresa Szobody** completed their home assignment project of translating the Augsburg confession into simple, Chadian French for the church workers of Chad. Pray as they are now working on translating the Catechism.

**19<sup>th</sup> TAIWAN** *James 4*

**Sandy Christofferson's** friend **Mrs. Guo** is conflicted in her heart and mind about becoming a Christian. Pray for the Holy Spirit to use God's Word to set her heart free to believe God's promises for her.

**20<sup>th</sup> CHAD** *James 5*

Pray that the Lord would provide a good chaplain for the Gethsemane school. Pray also for the children to

be able to understand the gospel as it is presented to them, and to come to trust Jesus as their Savior.

### 21<sup>st</sup> TAIWAN 1 Pet 1

**Mike and Delores Kittelson** ask prayer for a friend's husband who is showing more interest in the church. Pray that he will be drawn nearer by hearing the Word and as the Holy Spirit works in his life.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> CHAD 1 Pet 2

**Nathanael and Carrie Szobody** ask prayer for their Bagirmi Bible translators **Solomon** and **Phate**, who are in training to sharpen their skills and be able to work more independently in their ongoing translation work.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> JAPAN 1 Pet 3

**Dean and Linda Bengtson** ask prayer for the monthly "Words of Hope" meeting. **Pastor Zeniya** will be leading the Bible time tomorrow. Pray for a breakthrough, that those who attend might believe.

### 24<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA 1 Pet 4

Pray for **Heidi Jensen**, who brings the message of the gospel to the diplomatic community at the United Nations. Pray that God will work among these world leaders in transforming ways here in the US and when they return to their home countries.

### 25<sup>th</sup> N. AMERICA 1 Pet 5

Pray for those whom God is currently calling to serve as new missionaries with LBIM. Pray for their training and preparations, and for churches to support them in prayer and in financial support.

### 26<sup>th</sup> WORLD 2 Pet 1

Pray for the gospel of hope to reach the world's refugees. The top refugee-hosting countries are Turkey, Uganda, Pakistan, Lebanon and Iran. In Lebanon, one in six of the population is a refugee.

### 27<sup>th</sup> TAIWAN 2 Pet 2

**Mike and Delores Kittelson** ask prayer as Victory Hakka Fellowship presents special music at the worship service this Sunday. Pray too for their fellow musicians, **Patty** and **Sophia**. May the congregation be blessed by these expressions of faith in the Hakka language.

### 28<sup>th</sup> CHAD 2 Pet 3

**Jeremy and Sallee Stanton** ask prayer for good timing as **Daniel** and **Nancy Wen-Wu** and family move out of the Welcome Center to Bokoro, and **Matt** and **Christina Smith** and family arrive at the Center from the US. The logistics of such things can get complicated.

### 29<sup>th</sup> TAIWAN 2 Chron 1

**Mike and Delores Kittelson** ask prayer for **Peng Ma Ma**, that she would see her need to trust Jesus alone. May the gospel music and Bible stories she hears bring her to saving faith.

### 30<sup>th</sup> JAPAN 2 Chron 2

Please pray for the Sunday chapel times at House of Hope. Pray that God will bring more people to hear His Word and open their hearts to enable them to believe.

### 31<sup>st</sup> CHAD 2 Chron 3

Pray for **Daniel Wen**, his wife **Nancy Wu** and their children as they start a new life of ministry with Chadian partners among the Bilala people in Bokoro.

## COMING FULL CIRCLE

Twenty-five years ago, we arrived in Colorado with two small boys in tow to begin pre-field training for serving as bi-vocational missionaries in an East Asian country closed to traditional missionary work. LBIM had called us to go to that country after a gap of nearly fifty years since the last LB missionaries had been forced to leave the country due to war. A fledgling church had already been established in the country through the efforts of earlier missionaries, evangelists and pastors, but countless millions still remained untouched by the gospel. We would be part of a new wave of bi-vocational Christians flooding into this “closed” country from other nations to live out our Christian faith in the workplace, on university campuses, in our neighborhoods, and in our homes.

And now, as we write this farewell reflection for the DPN, we find ourselves back in Colorado—this time to attend a week-long missionary retreat that will bring our time of service in our beloved East Asian country to a formal end. Because of the global pandemic, we have been “locked out” of our home in East Asia for the past two-and-a-half years and are now relocating back to the US—to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, the place where we first met each other and began dating as students at Lutheran Brethren Schools back in the mid-1980s.

As we have been thinking back this week on our decades of service in East Asia, our hearts are filled with gratitude to the Lord for giving us a front-row seat to watch him moving and working in powerful, life-giving ways in that particular arena over the past twenty-five years. We are grateful for:

- each of the 1000+ undergraduate students and 100+ post-graduate students that attended Joel’s university courses.
- the 500+ Bibles (subsidized by funds from LBIM) that were purchased by university students and staff during those years.
- the many that have studied the Bible, professed faith in Christ, received baptism, chosen to marry Christian spouses and begin Christian families, and entered into or launched Christian outreach ministries.
- the many training events that we have been able to facilitate for disability ministries, marriage enrichment, ministry team formation, seminary training, teacher training, new missionary orientation, missionary care, and emerging mission leaders.
- The many short-term teams from the US and Europe that we have been privileged to welcome, lead, and host.
- The many creative, Spirit-led local ministries that have sprung up to bring the hope of the gospel to people with HIV, children with disabilities, earthquake victims, unreached people groups, and trafficked women.
- The hundreds of Christian co-workers—both local and international—that we have been privileged to know and serve alongside of during our time overseas.

As we say good-bye to our East Asia-based ministry years and say hello to the US-based ministry years ahead of us at Lutheran Brethren Seminary (Joel) and LBIM (Liz), we look forward to seeing God work just as powerfully and graciously all around us. The circle may look complete in bringing us back to Colorado and Fergus Falls, but our eternal journey with an awesome, gracious God is just getting started!

*~ Joel & Liz*