

24. From their base in Ghana, Matthew and Toni Krabill continue to support the Center for Justice and Peace, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, through training French-speaking church leaders to be Christian peacebuilders. Matthew also teaches at the Sanneh Institute and facilitates Christian-Muslim relations and peacebuilding in West Africa. Pray for wisdom and patience, as the Krabills cross cultural and religious divides. (p. 10)

25. Today, as we remember Jesus' birth, in a land crushed by oppression, let us look for the surprising ways that the Prince of Peace is born in our own fractured communities, and let us continue to pray and act in ways that build peace.

26. Today, Kwanzaa begins. This seven-day festival reflects African values and the dignity of each person in any given community. Pray for Mission Network as the agency works at dismantling the racial barriers in our churches and society.

27. Pray for the ministries of the Anabaptist Mennonite Trust in the United Kingdom. May God's love be shared through this network that sponsors seminars and supports the Centre for Anabaptist Studies. (p. 26)

28. The Mennonite Christian Church of Peru focuses on ministries for children and youth. Pray for members of this church as they care for the youngest members in their communities. (p. 34)

29. Mennonite Partners in China builds relationships and supports projects that bring Chinese and North American people together to collaborate and learn from one another. Pray that these relationships and projects will be able to survive new political tensions. (p. 19)

30. Praise God for a new partnership with Mennonite Church Uganda (MCU), a denomination with 31 congregations in Uganda and two congregations in South Sudan. Pray that God will provide resources for MCU's elementary school, The Lamb's Christian School, including volunteer teachers.

31. In many African American communities, this is Watch Night, a time of waiting for freedom. At midnight on Jan. 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation became law. Though the law is 161 years old, its purpose has not yet been fully fulfilled. Let today's prayer be one of committing to the struggle for justice for all people.

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December 2024

Prayer Vine

*Connected to the true vine:
Together, sharing all of Christ with all of creation*

Notice: *The page numbers in parentheses at the end of certain prayer requests indicate the 2024 Mission Mosaic page number where more information can be found on workers, partners and programs. Order your free copy at www.MennoniteMission.net/Mosaic.*

- 1.** Today, the Anchorage (Alaska) Service Adventure unit is participating in a community performance of Handel's *Messiah*. Pray for leader Samir Knego and participants Samuel Landis, Briana Nyveldt, Armando Perez and Aviva Setiawan, as they worship and share the good news of Jesus' birth, ministry and salvation offered to all people. (p. 39)
- 2.** Two weeks ago, South Asia's Community Health Evangelists gathered for their annual meeting in Delhi, India. Pray for the more than 40 participants, from four countries, as they implement the actions formulated during this time of worship, fellowship, evaluation and planning for the future.
- 3.** Under the leadership of Sibonokuhle Ncube, one of Mission Network's regional directors for Africa and Europe, the agency has begun a partnership with Key Ministry International (KMI), headquartered in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Pray for KMI workers as they provide spiritual, social and economic services.
- 4.** The Odesa Theological Seminary, in Ukraine, is adapting its curriculum to the changing needs of a society traumatized by prolonged war. Pray for the students, who are immediately putting into practice what they learn in their courses about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and crisis counseling and as they share the healing love of Christ.
- 5.** C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have served in Paraguay since 1985. Pray for them as they transition to a less intensive ministry of walking alongside new leadership in the areas of teaching, business chaplaincy and leading spiritual retreats. (p. 29)



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6. The Tucson (Arizona) Mennonite Voluntary Service unit is embarking on a Mexico-United States borderlands tour this week. Pray that Zing Bawi Ken, Schyler Entz, Hannah Lehman and Patrick Webb will have hearts and minds that are open to the pain, joy and complexities that surround immigration to the United States.
7. Today, Ghana is holding its presidential and parliamentary elections. Francis Dzivor, a Mennonite Church of Ghana pastor, requests prayer for God's intervention and peace to prevail. (p. 12)
8. A mission worker, who has ministered in Middle Eastern countries and now specializes in lecturing on Muslim-Christian relationships, requests prayer for peace and justice in the Middle East, especially in Lebanon/the West Bank and Gaza/Israel. Pray also for "peace in Syria, Sudan and all other places where there is suffering and instability."
9. For the past two years, Joseph and Rachel Givens, and their sons, have welcomed families that are fleeing oppression to the love and warmth of Maria Skobtsova House in Calais, France. Pray for God's strength and love to provide them with the energy to continue this demanding ministry. (p. 24)
10. Alfonsina and José Oyanguren are engaged in multiple ministries, including teaching and accompanying Toba-Qom communities in Argentina's Chaco region. Pray that the Oyangurens will continue to be God's agents for transformation and that our Toba-Qom brothers and sisters will be able to live ever more fully into God's abundant life. (p. 30)
11. Akiko Aratani and Ray Epp have served in Japan since 2007, working toward sustainable and regenerative agriculture. Pray for them as they conduct peace education workshops, provide biblically-based teachings on peacemaking and community life, and create a spiritual retreat center. (p. 15)
12. Pray for the witness of the church in Ethiopia and all its leaders, who are being trained by a partnership that includes, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, *Meserete Kristos* Seminary and Mission Network. May all follow the Prince of Peace faithfully through the challenges they face. (p. 12)
13. Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill, co-directors of the Paris (France) Mennonite Center, continue to offer Anabaptist resources to the French-speaking world, even as they seek to address the changing needs of society. Pray for them as they bring Laurel's administrative skills and experience as a restorative justice practitioner and Ben's pastoral and theological gifts to their assignment. (p. 26)
14. The Kekchi Mennonite Church of Guatemala has about 125 congregations, divided into six regions. Pray for the leaders, and pray, especially, for Maria Chub and Maria Santos Tiul, as they travel to all the regions to provide pastoral care for church's women. (p. 32)
15. Laura Schlabach has a heavy workload, as she serves on JCS International's interim three-person executive director team. Pray that she will be able to create space for rest and renewal. Pray, also, that JCS will find a full-time executive director. (p. 17)
16. The Ecuador Global Mission Partnership includes members of Central Plains Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA, Colombia Mennonite Church, Mission Network and Ecuador Mennonite conferences. Pray that gifts brought by each partner will contribute to powerful ministries and the unity of Christ's global church. Pray also for the partnership coordinators, Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton. (pp. 29, 33)
17. Pray for *Christliche Dienste*, the German Mennonite Voluntary Service program, which partners with Mission Network. Praise God for this international cooperation that encourages young people to follow Jesus in actions, as well as in faith statements. (p. 27)
18. Today, the Tanzania Mennonite Church begins three days of Sister Care/Compassionate Care seminars. Church leaders, Rev. Esther Muhagachi and Rev. John Wambura, ask that we join them in praying for God's spirit to move in powerful ways, to heal trauma and broken relationships.
19. Jae Young Lee and Karen Spicher live and work for peace from their home in the Peace Building in South Korea. Pray for them and all the ministries housed in the Peace Building — restorative justice programs, Grace and Peace Mennonite Church, and Circle Café and Bakery. (p. 16)
20. Martine Audéoud serves in academic and administrative capacities with several institutions, from a base in Côte d'Ivoire. Pray for her as she travels to teach in-person and online, training Christian leaders around the world. She is also an advisor to doctoral students and has many writing projects. (p. 23)
21. Pray for Soul Space, a Mission Network partner in Northern Ireland, which offers accompaniment to peacebuilders in Belfast, as they try to rebuild neighborhoods fractured by partisan conflict. (p. 27)
22. The Center for Evangelical Mennonite Theology (CEMTA) in Paraguay provides the music and theology departments for the Evangelical University of Paraguay. Pray for CEMTA's witness in these departments and through its Anabaptist Theology of Peace Study Center. (p. 34)
23. Participants in the Mennonite Voluntary Service and Service Adventure programs are preparing to celebrate Christmas with their supporting congregations and in their new communities. For some participants, this may be the first holiday during which they have been separated from their families. Pray that they may experience the meaning of Jesus' coming to this earth in a deeper way in their new contexts. (pp. 37-40)