

21. After participating in the Mennonite Women USA's Sister Care workshop in Brazil, Brazilian women organized a team to take this ministry to all the regions of Brazil. Pray for them in the coming year, as they further develop the Sister Care concept to include additional workshops on themes that the women have requested and as they prepare teams in each region to carry on these ministries.

22. The Odessa Theological Seminary, a Mission Network partner in Ukraine, is adapting its curriculum to the changing needs of a society traumatized by a 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, as they share the healing love of Christ.

23. Mission workers who have spent years in a media ministry in the Middle East ask us to pray that Christians will be protected, as they boldly share about the deliverance and abundant life that Jesus brings.

24. Terrorists continue to attack peaceful populations in Burkina Faso, as the citizens work in their fields and worship in churches, placing the country at the top of the Global Terrorism Index. The Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso leaders request prayer for an end to the violence and healing for the thousands of people who have been traumatized by seeing loved ones murdered. (p. 12)

25. C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have served in Paraguay since 1985. Pray for them as they transition to a less intensive ministry of doing and as they continue to lead spiritual retreats and serve as mentors. (p. 29)

26. Pray for a family that has been engaged in a sensitive ministry of church planting in France since 2015. (p. 24)

27. 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. (p. 17)

28. Ramadan, a Muslim month of fasting, prayer, reflection and community, begins at sundown today. Pray for God's love, light and grace to shine on our Muslim neighbors and guide Muslim-Christian relationships around the world in ways that lead to peace.

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February 2025

# 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](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/Mosaic).

1. Praise God for the 70 years of ministry of the Fellowship of Mennonite Churches in Taiwan. Pray for the continuing outreach of the church's agencies in Hualien: the Mennonite Christian Hospital; the New Dawn Educare Center, which serves people with special challenges; and the Good Shepherd Center for abused women, those sold into prostitution, and children from dysfunctional families. (p.21)
2. The Mennonite Voluntary Service in Alamosa, Colorado, has two members: Emily Keefer and Josh Kennell. Pray for them in their assignments related to restorative justice initiatives and for their host congregation, Anabaptist Fellowship of Alamosa, as they minister in some of Colorado's most vulnerable communities, addressing food and housing insecurity, immigrant justice, restorative justice, and working for the well-being of the natural environment. (p. 37)
3. Two months ago, you prayed that Shalom Evangelical Theological Seminary in Chad, where Peter Sensenig teaches, would be spared devastating flooding this year. Join Peter and Christy Harrison, and their family, in praising God for answering this prayer. Pray for Christy as she adds Dazaga to her language repertoire, helping her communicate with women who haven't had opportunities to learn Arabic or French. (p. 10)



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**4.** Today is Rosa Park's birthday. She was an outspoken activist, who fought against racial injustice and is best known for leading the boycott that ended legal segregation on buses. Pray that each of us will have the faith and courage to speak out against injustice, trusting God to guide and sustain us.

**5.** Praise God for the dedication of Alfonsina and José Oyanguren, and their family, who have served alongside the Toba-Qom people of the Argentine Chaco for more than two decades. Pray for their ministries of making God's word available in the Toba-Qom language, through audio Bible recordings, radio ministry, the development of an encyclopedic dictionary, education and multi-media programs. (p. 30)

**6.** Kate Widmer is part of a team that works alongside the residents of a low-income area in eastern France, through the outreach programs of The Prairie Church of Montbéliard. Pray for her and the neighbors she relates to through sewing classes, a bookstore and café, and mentoring young people. (p. 25)

**7.** JCS International, a consortium of Christian organizations in Mongolia, continues to search for an executive director. Pray that the person God has chosen for this position will be alert and willing to engage in this ministry. (p. 20)

**8.** Nathan Mudiji Makumbi, a Mennonite Brethren pastor in the Democratic Republic of Congo and national director of the denomination's mission agency, is a student in a master's in conflict transformation program. Pray for him as he works to for justice between the Indigenous Batwa People and the dominant Bantu culture, which considers the Batwa People less than human.

**9.** Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton express their gratitude for their team of supporters, who have been praying for them and have helped them navigate the difficult times, as well the times when it has been easy to see God's hand at work. Pray that the churches in Ecuador will be strengthened, as they face many trials. (p. 29)

**10.** Joseph and Rachel Givens accompany volunteers at the Maria Skobtsova House and wider community in Calais, France. Pray for them as they offer a temporary home to migrants, who are trying to cross the English Channel to find refuge in England. (p. 24)

**11.** A couple, who has been serving through Youth With A Mission and other organizations in multiple Asian countries, requests prayer for their health and for better lives for their students in leadership training and business programs. (p. 16)

**12.** SADRA Conflict Transformation is a Christian response to social injustice in southern Africa. Pray for director, Oscar Siwali, as he leads a team of trainers, who help communities, churches and schools deescalate violence from the individual level to the national level. (p. 13)

**13.** Would you like to help Mennonite youth learn more about their Anabaptist heritage? There are still two days to register for Youth Venture's "Anabaptism at 500: Looking Back to See the Future" trip this summer. Pray that the next generation of Mennonite leaders will be shaped by the rich diversity of the global Mennonite church during this once-in-a-lifetime encounter in Germany and Switzerland.

**14.** "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God" (1 John 4:7 NIV). On this Valentine's Day, live out your prayer, through sharing God's love with someone who would not otherwise receive such a gift.

**15.** Today is the registration deadline for the Just Peace Pilgrimage that will be hosted by Sarah Augustine, executive director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery. Pray that God will prepare the hearts of those who will immerse themselves in this learning experience on the ancestral homeland of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, in the state of Washington, April 8-12.

**16.** As summer vacation ends in the southern hemisphere, pray for students and teachers throughout much of Latin America, including *Colegio Americano Menno* in La Mesa, Colombia, as they begin a new school year.

**17.** 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 her experience as a restorative justice practitioner and Ben's pastoral and theological gifts to their assignment.

**18.** 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)

**19.** Thirty years after being founded, Benin Bible Institute and ONG Bethesda, the ministries formed through a partnership between an inter-denominational council of churches in Benin and the predecessor agencies of Mission Network, are going through a transition period, as the first generation of leaders is retiring. Pray that the vision to serve the most vulnerable in the name of Jesus will continue. (p. 11)

**20.** Pray for Elisabeth Daudey, Alea Sagert, Sadie Sherman, Hannan Smith, and unit leaders Christian and Leigha Stoltzfus, who make up the Colorado Springs (Colorado) Service Adventure unit, as they increase the ministry capacity of the Beth-El Mennonite Church, their host congregation.