

# MISSIONS connection

February 14, 2024

*February Birthdays 15 Paige Queen*

*March Birthdays 11 Kellie Crowe 29 Landon Hollis*

**Elijah and Raelene Soritau**

**Elisha, Tori, Karis and Isaiah**

*Elijah is the Vice-Rector of Emmanuel University in Oradea, Romania and pastor in the Oradea area*

Please pray for my sister. She has surgery either today or tomorrow. It is pretty major I understand. Also, please pray for Raelene's travel safety. Also, I have planned a conference with about 42 pastors in my home county where I am teaching Homiletics. It will not be until April, but I am working on logistics. Thank you.

**Bryan & Brittany Kelly**

*Brittany is the preschool director at Severns Valley  
162 Dorothy Drive, 2G, Elizabethtown, KY 42701*

We both have interviews this week that we are excited about. Pray that we would trust the Lord as we seek what He has next for us. Pray for my heart as I am struggling pretty hard at work.

**Chad & Emily Keeter**

*Reach UTK*

*1415 Harmony Rd, Knoxville, TN 37912*

We're grateful for the gospel seeds that you have planted in our lives over the years.

Thank you for continuing to pray for us as we get back into the swing of things for the spring semester! I've been encouraged by the great group of students who are interested in studying the book of Philippians with us this semester. Please pray for the Lord to increase these students' hearts for His Word and the depth of their understanding and appreciation for the gospel as we study God's Word together. Pray that God would create a culture of humility, unity, and longing to see others come to know Christ. Lastly, pray for the Lord to open these students eyes to the beauty of His body expressed in the local church. We'd love to see some of these students develop relationships across the body of our church. Thank you for praying with us!

**Nathan and Laura Johnson**

*Navigators Collegiate Ministry*

*6212 Woodlawn Ave, Columbia SC 29209*

Thank you so much for your prayers Brother Charlie! A few things you can pray for: Our students, that they would finish the semester strong in classes but also in their relationship with God & they wouldn't let that fall as they're heading into the stress of finals. We are also hosting a Christmas party this Friday where we will spend some time reading the Christmas story & singing a few songs (hoping to start with our focus on Jesus as we enter Advent). Also just pray for Laura's health, she's been sick for almost 2 weeks now & it has just been lingering & not wanting to go away. She was also put on a new medication recently that is supposed to help some with her other health problems that have been going on for a while. She is also receiving some treatment over Christmas that should help with that as well. Thank you & we appreciate y'all!

**Hannah and Enos Nugraha**

*(Mark & Suzanne Kelly's granddaughter)*

*Wycliffe Bible Translators*

*teaching Missionary Kids in Southeast Asia to support Bible Translation.*

Happy Valentine's Day! Thanks for loving us through prayer! We love y'all, too!

Hannah, Enos, and Azarya

Praise:

- Enos had to have his wisdom teeth removed this past week. We are thankful for a good dentist to do it, and for the time of rest for him while he recovered.

Prayer:

- Pray for our church and wisdom for us about how to engage in a wise way (a lot of the Indonesian employees from YAJASI also attend our church).  
- Pray that Enos and I will be diligent in prayer together to seek how God wants us to invest time and energy in making disciples here.  
- Pray for wisdom as I make plans for the students I've been working with when I go on maternity leave.  
- Pray that God will protect Azarya and me from malaria and dengue.  
- Pray for final details for the house to come together before Azarya comes.  
- Pray for encouragement for the Kimi translation team and a productive trip to the village later this month.

**Run for God**

*Mitchell & Holly Hollis*

*PO Box 99, Varnell, GA 30756*

Thank you church family for your continuous prayers! We feel them and we are so blessed by you!

We wanted to share a RunClub FaceBook post we received this week. This is from a couple in Texas who came to the Mississippi race, and we were thankful to see them. They have come here to the 5K Weekend and have always been a huge support and encouragement to us as well as other RunClub members.

Alison and David Bryant posted:

"4 miles for the Bryants. His mercies are new every morning. Thank you, Lord!

This past weekend my sweet mom (who has Alzheimer's) was in the hospital a few days. I got to travel and be with her each night while she was there. Precious hours together. It's hard to see your parents' age.

I'm thankful that she's back home again, and I'm thankful for the mental and spiritual endurance God continues to build in us through Run for God.

Happy Tuesday, Run Club fam!"

We love seeing folks thriving through this Ministry! God is certainly blessing us through them.

Please pray for those who are just beginning this Running Journey. As the New Year gets in full swing, we have many who are taking on the 5K Challenge to run their first 5K and are being blessed by the Bible Study. We also have many who are beginning the Couch2Marathon Challenge. These folks will train in the 5K, 10K, Half Marathon and Marathon distances throughout the year and "Graduate" with a Marathon in St. Petersburg, February, 2025. They will be out on the roads, trails, and paths with the opportunity to share with others, Jesus' Love and Salvation. Pray for these meetings for courage and boldness.

We love you Grove Level and are so thankful for you!!!

The Run for God Team

**Stephen and Emily Howard**

*living in Kentucky while seeking the ministry placement God has for them*

Hey! 1) Continue to pray that I would be able to preach the Gospel to those around me at work. Continue to pray for my one coworker who has been coming to church. Continue also to pray for others that God is using me to reach. I've had other encounters that are encouraging. 2) Continue to pray for Emily and her new job. Pray that God would give her comfort as she moves on to the next step of training. 3) I want to start leading some local evangelism teams soon. Pray for wisdom on where to go with that. I'm going to start looking at some local areas to do evangelism. I plan to go somewhere this Friday and see if it would be a good place to reach people there. 4) My sinuses are still not perfect, but I feel much better. Thanks for praying! Thank you all!

**Frank Nuckolls**

*Director of Missions for the Flint River Association*

Thanks so much for your prayers and encouragement. I continue to pray for you and Grove Level.

Thanks

Frank Nuckolls

Flint River Baptist Association

Requests and praises:

1. Please continue to pray for the students and teachers that are a part of the FRBA training center this semester.
2. Please continue to pray for the FRBA Church Replanting Team as they develop strategic plans for replanting and revitalizing churches.
3. Pray for our upcoming mission trip to the Dominican Republic on March 11-15. This trip is designed to train Pastors and church leaders in Disciple-Making.
4. Praise the Lord that several of the FRBA churches are baptizing new believers. Over the past two weeks, I have received reports that there have been over 20 baptisms, some of these are in small churches that have not had a baptism in years.

**Justin & Sara Silvers**

*Chaplain with Amedisys Home Health and Hospice Company.  
P. O. Box 134 West Alexander PA, 15376*

Thank you for your words of love and encouragement. Please be praying for our church here in PA. There was a situation at a youth event over the weekend that was not handled properly nor biblically. Sara, myself, and a couple of other parents met with the pastor and elders, and things were discussed. Some things were brushed aside that needed to be handled. Pray for direction for the elders. Our pastor is young and inexperienced. There are things in place, and I have been asked to help guide the youth program. Pray for me as I step back into ministry. Pray that our pastor can understand and grow. There is room for grace, however the situation and lack of proper handling needs to be addressed.

**David, Kellie Crowe & Family**

*Bi-vocational pastor at Grace Fellowship in Abingdon VA  
642 State Street, Bristol, TN 37620*

Thank you so much for the encouraging words. I too am a product of others at GLBC bearing fruit and investing. Praise be to God! Thank you for loving us in prayer. Grace — God is working in folks at Grace. We have had, just in the last couple of weeks, some folks come forward to say they are ready to serve the Lord more fully. Another brother has stepped up to serve as deacon of Care and Helps ministry. He had been using excuses to the Lord as to why he couldn't. But God had him in John 21 reading and studying, and the Lord crushed his excuses. We will commission him to this ministry on the 18th. We have also begun reading together as a fellowship Praying the Bible by Donald Whitney. Pray with us that our Father would continue to "teach us to pray"! And that we would be "doers," too! Crowes — we are like most of you who have our proverbial plates full right now. Please pray for me and Kellie as we counsel and try to help three couples (2 couples are not a part of Grace. Just some neighbors and friends who are walking in severely broken marriages). We need strength and endurance to walk with them. Their "piles" are big, and their sorting through them is difficult. We are not confident that any of them are "in Christ." Pray that the Gospel will go forth first and foremost! Thank you for praying. We will continue to pray for your days of prayer and fasting! We love our GLBC family!

**Mark & Gynnette Yoho**

*Fourth Watch Ministry*

*840 Mountain Loop Rd NW, Sugar Valley, GA 30746*

"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ," 1 Peter 1:7. It is not easy when your faith is tested, is it? However, I have found that when your faith goes through the fire the outcome is always better than before the testing.

That was the case in Las Vegas. Less than 24 hours before a team of 85 men and a few women were to arrive, the camp where we made reservations to Lodge canceled our reservations because of an incoming winter storm. The weather forecast was predicting 6 to 10 inches of snow in the higher elevations where the camp was. I'm not sure what the actual snowfall total was, but from the streets of Las Vegas the mountain caps were covered, and snow fell for three consecutive days. Praise God we were not stuck up there! So the chore was to find lodging for 85 people in less than 24 hours on Super Bowl weekend. Praise God, He worked it out. One of my prayers since we were there on Labor Day was that my team would be lodged on Las Vegas Boulevard. That's exactly what happened! I had a great team of 13 men who worked hard to make sure that my job was easy. For me personally, and I heard a lot of other people say, "this was the best Super Bowl Outreach they had been on." Our teaching theme was on "Restoring the office of the evangelist to the church." I taught the first session, and six other team leaders followed with their teaching. The teaching time was great. Outreach on the street, likewise, was great. Friday and Saturday were cold, and we were stationed outside of Caesar's Palace. We ministered to thousands of people. We had no trouble with law enforcement, Street performers, or other religious groups. We had a great location. On Sunday we were able to secure a location right at one of the main gates of the stadium. We had a heavy flow of foot traffic for about 4 hours solid. I am aware of several who have made professions of faith. We did have a fair number of gospel conversations. It was a great Outreach. Thank you for your prayers. We flew out about 6:45 p.m. West Coast time, and I got home about 4:30 a.m. on Monday morning.

Yesterday I was showing symptoms of a common cold, and today it is a cold. Praise the Lord that Pastor Mitch called and asked me to preach this Sunday night at Sugar Valley Baptist. Please continue to pray for our calendar as we are booking appointments for the 2024 calendar year. Also we need to nail down the Outreach we want to do for the year. Chatting with Brother Bill Adams who led this Outreach, we came to the conclusion that the harder the trial is the better the outcome. Certainly that was the case with this Outreach. It was quite stressful there for a while but the Lord worked it out in a great way. I can't share with you in detail all of the things that God did as a result of that camp canceling our reservation. The wonderful works are too many to name. Thank you for your prayers and support. Blessings, Gynnette and Mark

**Josh & Kelsey Ellison**  
"Go and Make Ministries"  
[www.goandmakeministry.org](http://www.goandmakeministry.org)

We have made great progress. The weather has been good; hot, but good.  
We knocked out a lot on day 1.



We have a big concrete day today and some other stuff like starting doors and finishing electrical. Then Thursday should be punchlist items. I believe the local missionary here (a Guayame from Panama) said the whole community is going to come around lunch on Thursday for a blessing and to eat with us, so that will be great. Thank y'all for your prayers. Pray that God uses this church building to build His church among these people.



Love y'all,  
Josh

**Thomas, Paige, Elizabeth & Jacob Queen**  
*Queens for the King*  
135 Leamington Lane SE, Cleveland, TN 37323

Hey Church Family!

Cedara, South Africa Update:

Syvion and Fundi are following up with all the teens and children who prayed to receive Christ while we were on the December Mission trip. Pray for their wisdom as they sort through their testimonies to make sure they understood so they can be scheduled to be baptized to make a public profession of their faith.

The people in the Cedara church have approached Syvion that they want to meet on Sundays even if their community hall they meet in normally is closed or has something scheduled that trumps their service time. They love attending church this much now. Please pray they can always find a church member who will open their home to a temporary meeting place and that everyone will fit inside if that is needed one Sunday. Please continue to ask God to provide them with a more permanent land location to place a church building on in His time.

**Troy & Lille Poe**  
*student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*  
514 Enzian Dr, Dalton, GA 30721

Thank you for your prayers. We are all doing better this week health wise. Truett and I are still on the tail end of our colds, but we are doing much better, and Lille and Palmer Kate are remaining healthy. I completed the GACE English test this past Friday. I believe I did well, but I am not certain if I passed. I will receive my scores on March 1st. Please pray that I passed. Next weekend I have a couple of job fairs I plan to attend. Please pray I make good connections at these events that will open up doors to teaching opportunities in the local schools. Continue to pray for wisdom and direction in these days. Happy Valentine's Day!

**Brian & Ashley Jones**  
*works in security with the IMB*

Please continue to pray for Sophie's surgery. Ashley has spent hours a day talking with insurance companies, dr offices, and everything in between trying to figure out what is going on with our insurance and this surgery. They aren't approving it because the dr is out of network and are telling us it would be out of pocket. We would do anything for SJ and go to the ends of the earth for her, but having to pay for this ourselves would be a tremendous financial burden for us. Please pray this issue is resolved in a timely manner. This type of stuff weighs so heavily on us, especially Ashley as she directly deals with it.

**Davi Masi**  
*Seminary student and psychologist in Brazil*

Prayer requests:

- Please pray in thanksgiving to God for the new home and for all the provision in this new beginning.
- Yesterday I took my driver's license exam, and I passed! Let's thank the Lord for this blessing.
- I had my first meeting at Crossover Global base. It was very nice, and I could choose my new office!

Thank you for praying!

**Luce Terto**  
*Serving God in Brazil.*

Hello church family,

Thank you for your prayers. No big changes here. My mother is doing physical therapy for her sore knee. My father is about the same.

Two big praises:

Vânia, my sister, had been out of work since December/22 and just got a good job.

Tiago, my nephew, just got a full college scholarship to study engineering.

Two requests:

My mother's knee problem and the related insurance problems.  
My health as I approach my birthday later this week.

God bless you!

Luce

## MISSIONS & MINISTRY PARTNERS

**Michael & Holley Richardson**  
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**Ross and Molly Kinsey**  
**Daughter, Rosemary, and twins, Tennessee & Shiloh**  
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