

Daily Prayer Notes

Lutheran Brethren International Mission

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1st TAIWAN *Gen 1*

Pray for **David** and **Janice** and daughter **Lulu** as they fly to France today. They will spend a year learning French at Les Cedres, a missionary language school in Massy (a suburb of Paris).

2nd JAPAN *Gen 2*

The New Year holiday is one of the longest and most important holidays in Japan. Pray that as families gather to rest and celebrate, that God's people will take this opportunity to share the gospel of rest for our souls in Jesus Christ.

3rd N. AMERICA *Gen 3*

Pray for **Christina Smith's** ongoing recovery. Her anemia is slowly improving, and her injection meds are working! Pray for a full healing of her kidneys.

4th TAIWAN *Gen 4*

Praise the Lord that **Mrs. Wu**, who has been studying the Bible with **Sandy Christofferson**, was baptized last month! Pray for her as her husband still wants her to do their family's twice-daily ancestor worship. Pray for his salvation.

5th CHAD *Gen 5*

Pray for **Dan** and **Claire**, as they settle into life in their village. With gratitude for God's blessing upon the relationships they build, the formal language training they will

soon begin, and for God to continue to meet their daily needs.

6th JAPAN *Gen 6*

Pray for **Paul** and **Alexa Fraser**, as they have begun additional study times with Japanese tutors. Pray too for **Arthur** (4 yrs.) and **Oswald** (2 yrs.), who have many "Aunties and Grandmas" teaching them Japanese through playtimes together.

7th CHAD *Gen 7*

Dan and **Claire** ask prayer for their mothers, who are traveling together to Chad, and are arriving on the 10th. Pray for this time together as Dan and Claire introduce their mothers to their daily life in Chad.

8th FRANCE *Gen 8*

Today, **Ellie** begins her final semester of language learning, now at a higher level of French. Pray that this semester will equip her for communicating well in Chad.

9th CHAD *Gen 9*

Danny Bronson, **Owen Ewan**, and **Kami Quade** travel to Chad today. Owen will spend 6 months serving **Nathanael** and **Carrie's** family and their ministry, and **Kami** will do the same with other families. Pray that this will be a blessing for Owen and Kami, and for the families and ministries they will serve. Happy birthday to **David Kuan** today!

10th CHAD *Gen 10*

Pray for **Sonja** as she cares for her own family, and also helps village families with nutrition, and treating illnesses and injuries. May all see Christ's love in her as she cares for them. Happy birthday **Sonja**.

11th N. AMERICA *Gen 11*

Matt and **Christina Smith** are hoping that by this time Matt has secured a new job and they have moved into a new home. Let us pray that God will place them where they can best serve in His mission while Christina continues to heal.

12th TAIWAN *Gen 12*

Pray for three young men that **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson** have been discipling. They are half-way through their four-month compulsory military service. Pray that they will still grow spiritually during this time.

13th CHAD *Gen 13*

Paul and **Teresa** ask prayer for **Etienne** and **Fatima**, and their family. Having finished their mission training in December, Etienne will now teach biology in the public school system and serve in a village as a lay missionary. Happy birthday to **Paul** today.

14th N. AMERICA *Gen 14*

Pray for **Dan Venberg**, as he is speaking today at Our Redeemers in Minot. Pray that this visit will serve to encourage and mobilize Our Redeemers in their partnership in God's mission through LBIM.

15th FRANCE *Gen 15*

After studying and talking with his professors about mission work, **Matthias** is now writing his final

paper on the place of charity work in missions. Pray that his studies will serve **Matthias** and **Ellie** well in their future calling of proclaiming the gospel in Chad.

16th JAPAN *Gen 16*

Dean and **Linda Bengtson** ask for prayer as they invite neighbors to tomorrow's Words of Hope Bible Study. Pray for **Pastor Haruya** as he prepares and leads. Pray also for those who attend, that they will be receptive to the gospel.

17th TAIWAN *Gen 17*

Pray for the salvation of **CW**, a man whom **Ethan** and **Sandy Christofferson** met on a recent camping trip. Pray for more opportunities for them to have meaningful conversations with him.

18th CHAD *Gen 18*

Nathanael asks prayer for wisdom about adding a middle school program to the mission school next year. Pray that the Lord would raise up workers to help administrate these schools so he can focus his energies on evangelism.

19th CHAD *Gen 19*

Pray for **Jeremy** and **Sallee** as they manage the Welcome Center and its ministries and assist our missionaries with the ongoing requirements of living and working in Chad. Happy 2nd birthday to **Lucia Kuan** today!

20th TAIWAN *Gen 20*

Ben and **Sara Hosch** ask prayer for stable friends for their children who would be encouraging to them. Pray for Ben and Sara to have wisdom and energy as parents to love and teach their children well. Happy 13th birthday **Adelaide**.

21st FRANCE *Gen 21*

David and **Janice** were commissioned last month as missionaries to Chad from Taiwan. Pray that their year of language study in France will prepare them well for future ministry in Chad.

22nd CHAD *Gen 22*

Pray for continuous language and culture learning for **Daniel** and **Nancy**. Pray for their children: **Dan**, **Chi**, and **Joy**, that they too will grow in adapting to the culture through friendships with the local children.

23rd CHAD *Gen 23*

David and **Sonja** ask prayer for a villager they refer to as **Caleb**, who was recently baptized. Pray that God will strengthen and grow his faith. Pray too for his protection, as persecution is real.

24th TAIWAN *Gen 24*

Ben and **Sara Hosch** ask prayer for Taichung Victory Church as they consider a new location that better fits the needs of the church. Their current facility is small, making it hard to invite new people in without adequate space to accommodate them.

25th CHAD *Gen 25*

Nathanael and **Carrie** ask prayer for **Ousmane**, a seeker who has expressed a desire to follow Jesus. Pray that the Holy Spirit would calm his fears and grant him faith and courage to follow Jesus.

26th CHAD *Gen 26*

Praise the Lord for a good finish to the first trimester for the mission school, now a complete primary school with kindergarten through 5th grade! Thank God for the eight

teachers and their families who faithfully serve the children of the village every day.

27th N. AMERICA *Gen 27*

Dan Venberg departs for Chad today to visit our missionaries there, returning Feb 24. While there, he will also lead a team from the LB churches in Taiwan who are in Chad to encourage our Taiwan missionary partners.

28th CHAD *Gen 28*

Praise the Lord that **Dan** and **Claire** are building relationships in their village that have already brought opportunities to discuss Jesus and matters of faith. Pray for continued boldness and courage to speak of Jesus, and that their vocabulary will grow to meet their needs. Happy birthday to **Dan**.

29th JAPAN *Gen 29*

Pastors & elders are meeting today and tomorrow to prepare for the JLBC Annual Meeting in March. Pray for a renewed mission vision of what God wants to do in and through the local churches and through the synod as a whole.

30th JAPAN *Gen 30*

Pray for **Paul** and **Alexa Fraser**, as they meet their neighbors and visit in Japanese. Pray for more opportunities for these visits, and for growth in the language.

31st CHAD *Gen 31*

As **Jeremy** and **Sallee** finish their service at the Welcome Center next summer, LBIM needs a couple or family to step into that role of providing a place of rest and renewal for our missionaries. Pray for such a couple to hear God's call and receive training for this role.

LBIM GLOBAL RETREAT REFLECTIONS

LBIM was blessed to host the first ever global LBIM retreat in late 2023. On November 26th, our missionaries from around the globe congregated at Suan Bua Resort in Chiangmai, Thailand, for a week of fellowship, sharing, laughing, crying, learning, praying, and playing together. Our theme for the week was “Joy in the Journey”. Our speakers opened up the book of Philippians, focusing on taking joy in all circumstances, finding joy in unity, knowing joy in God’s grace, and being joyful in God’s provision. Joel and Liz Christenson, and Chris and Suzanne Prestaf, our missionary care couples for Asia and Africa respectively, led the retreat. A team from Triumph LBC provided children’s ministry programming. Rachel Roy and Rachel Christenson of Mount Bethel LBC provided ministry in music and worship. President Paul Larson and wife Bee were also part of the retreat, as was the family of Pastor Sky Chen, the Taiwanese pastor of the LBIM-Chad missionaries Daniel and Nancy Wen-Wu family.

It was such a great week of fellowship, rest, and renewal for our missionaries. We are so grateful to have had this joy. Following are just a few reflections directly from a few of our missionaries:

“The first global LBIM retreat was more than I expected it to be. I can’t find an expression to communicate how valuable it has been to form a connection with our Asian missionaries in conversation, prayer and worship together, and in hearing their stories firsthand. Thank you for giving us this experience of greater unity in Jesus and his mission. Priceless!” – Teresa S.

“A big shout out to all who invested so much to make this week possible and so amazing. We feel refreshed, encouraged, and better equipped to march forward. We come away reminded that we are not alone but rather a part of a big family that really cherishes each other. Wow! Thanks! – Ethan Christofferson

“Meeting our missionaries working in other countries, and seeing how the Lord is working there, has refreshed, and encouraged us in his call on our lives. We went to Thailand for a retreat, and that’s what we got: the fellowship was joyful., our children were nourished in their faith, while the speakers spoke the Word to our hearts with unique insights into our life and ministry.” – Nathanael S.

Thank you for your prayers and support of our missionary families around the world!



- Dan Venberg