

24. Courtney Mast works at the Dow Family Children's Home in Kenya. Pray for her and other staff as they create a loving family for children with nowhere else to live.

25. On this Christmas day, pray for Nazareth Village near where Jesus grew up 20 centuries ago. Personnel seek to peel away the layers that distort Jesus' message of peace in a world torn apart by conflict.

26. Journey International participants Seth Kurtz, Josh Schirch-Sanchez and Petra Showalter serve in the context of the Quito Mennonite Church in Ecuador. Pray for them as they help with an after-school program, children's peace workshops, and the ministries among Colombian refugees.

27. Pray for Marilyn Peters as she serves as associate pastor for an international congregation and also as a human resource and training liaison with Christian Associates in Uruguay.

28. Linda Oyer teaches and preaches on New Testament and spirituality in Bible schools and congregations in France and its neighboring countries. Pray for a daily renewing of her spirit as she ministers to others.

29. Mission Network collaborates with the Ghana Mennonite Church and Good News Theological College and Seminary. May these two partners find ways to work together to increase their witness to Jesus' saving power.

30. Pray for the health of a long-term mission worker who has retired in Nepal. May she feel God's presence and the love of the community she has served most of her life.

31. Although we end the year with many people suffering turmoil and violence, pray that we do not tire of holding forth the light of hope in Jesus, who has overcome evil and injustice. May we continue to "Be the Gospel" in our own communities and around the world.

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Mennonite
Mission
Network

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Prayer Vine

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



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- 1.** Today, DOOR's board gathers for their three-day annual meeting in Dallas. Pray for representatives as they make budget decisions and prepare for 2017.
- 2.** Amanda and Gamaliel Falla continue to encourage and support the church leaders in Colombia as the country strives toward peace. Pray for church growth and that God will equip pastors and their families.
- 3.** Pray for all who work at building bridges of understanding between Christians and Muslims. Today, ask for open hearts and minds as a Mission Network couple leads a group of Christians in the United Kingdom in a study day on Islam.
- 4.** Praise God for Nancy Frey's recovery from dengue fever. Pray for healing for the hundreds of other people who have contracted the illness in Burkina Faso during the recent epidemic.
- 5.** Praise God for the 300 congregations in Israel that are overflowing as a result of large numbers of new believers. Pray for a Mission Network couple who is beginning a new Jesus-centered ministry of peacemaking between Messianic Jews and Arabic Christians.
- 6.** Laurelville Mennonite Church Center is a conference and retreat center in the Laurel Mountains of southwestern Pennsylvania that provides hospitality year-round to churches, youth groups, and school groups. Pray for SOOP volunteers who contribute to this ministry through hospitality, painting, carpentry, housekeeping, and general maintenance.

7. Rejoice with Colleen and Pablo Fast as the church is growing in Brazil, especially in river communities. Pray for them as they train and mentor pastoral couples to lead these new congregations.

8. Austin Roberts requests prayer for unity among the trainees and staff of *An Cuan*, a discipleship training center in Northern Ireland, as they work at peacebuilding and offering hospitality to those who come for retreats. Pray also for continued discernment as Austin looks toward future ministry.

9. Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen are taking on more responsibilities at Southern African Development and Reconstruction Agency in South Africa. Pray for them as they host training sessions, facilitate a pastors' network, develop monitoring and evaluation materials for peace education projects, and work on SADRA's social media presence.

10. The Colorado Springs Service Adventure unit works alongside the Beth-El Mennonite Church to live out an Anabaptist perspective in a community with a large military population. Pray for participants David Borbely, Nora Charles, Marle Moellenbruck and Kate Unruh, and leaders Daniel and Meg Smeltzer Miller.

11. Today, Mary Beyler is preaching at the Asahikawa Mennonite Church in Japan. Pray for God's word to flow through Mary and touch the hearts of the congregation. Ask God to give Mary energy as she adjusts to her new apartment in Kushiro.

12. Mennonite churches in Bolivia have vacation Bible school this month. Margrit Kipfer Barrón helps prepare the curriculum and train teachers. Pray that the Spirit of God will move in a powerful way among the children who attend and their families.

13. Alisha and Joshua Garber are preparing to serve with Barcelona Mennonite Church in Spain. Pray for them and 7-month-old Asher as they seek to balance ministry with youth and mission outreach and family life.

14. Praise God for Mission Network's collaboration with MCC in peacemaking training for five Mennonite Church Nigeria leaders. Pray for the Nigerian leaders as they mediate conflicts in an area where oil extraction creates disparity between people with great wealth and others who live in poverty.

15. Chicago's Mennonite Voluntary Service unit is made up of Aaron Gonzalez Alpizar, Maria Alejandra Garcia, Carly Kraybill and Joel Yoder. Pray for them as they work alongside Chicago Community Mennonite Church in after-school sports and literacy programs, environmental justice, and community building.

16. Laura Schlabach requests prayer for her ministry of supporting the JCS leadership team in Mongolia's capital city, Ulaanbaatar. May she make time to balance spiritual renewal and the life-giving work of visiting more remote areas this month before a busy administrative season begins in January.

17. Delicia Bravo and Peter Wigginton serve as Ecuador partnership coordinators and also in Mennonite church programs through music and children's and youth ministries. Pray for them and their 3-year-old daughter, Aliyah, as they strengthen relationships between congregations and with partners in Colombia and the United States.

18. A mission family who works among Muslim immigrants in France requests prayer for those who attend a community meal and Bible study. Pray that they may experience God's love and care for them.

19. Democratic Republic of Congo is in political turmoil as the country tries to organize presidential elections. Pray that the Mennonites in Congo will provide a strong witness to Jesus, the Prince of Peace, and that they can help move the country toward governmental transition without more loss of lives.

20. Pray for safe travels for the Christian Service participants going home for Christmas. Remember in a special way those who are celebrating far from their families. May they experience the love and support of the communities where they are serving.

21. Angela and Tomoki Yamanaka are co-pastors of the Asahikawa Gospel Church in Hokkaido, Japan. Pray for them and their children in this holiday season as they present the story of Jesus in compelling ways that speak to the needs of their community.

22. Pray for Jason and Tonya Yoder Rupp and their two children as they celebrate Christmas in Paraguay. May Jesus' love come alive for them in fresh ways in this new context, and may they share this story with passion and compassion.

23. Tom and Disa Rutschman have shared Jesus as the Light of the World through many long winters on the Arctic Circle in Sweden. Pray that this year they may again create sparks of life through teaching in schools and the leadership they provide at Jokkmokk Free Church.