

**24.** Nancy Frey and Bruce Yoder teach and support local ministry from their home in Burkina Faso, and through travels to other parts of the African continent. Pray for traveling safety, time to parent their two teenagers, and wisdom as they serve alongside partners doing God's work.

**25.** DOOR hosts groups in U.S. cities throughout the summer months. Pray for youth as they return to their home communities and share what they learned in the city.

**26.** Pray for Brian and Kelly McPhail and daughter, Elsie, as they transition to life in North America after three years of service in Beijing with Mennonite Partners in China.

**27.** Margot and Stephen Longley have served with Mission Network for 30 years, first in Nepal and now in Korpo, Finland. Pray for them as they move into retirement in Finland.

**28.** Two couples serving in the Middle East are currently visiting North American congregations and other interest groups. Pray that their interactions will increase cross-cultural understanding and strengthen the global church.

**29.** Freddy and Margrit Kipfer Barrón work with the Bolivia Mennonite Church planning national youth events and Sunday-school curriculum, as well as serving as a pastoral couple. Pray for God's energy and wisdom in their many roles.

**30.** Courtney Mast serves at the Dow Family Children's Home in Kenya. Pray for Courtney as she helps care for the children and also as she shares God's love with her coworkers and the surrounding community.

---

**Prayer Vine** is published monthly by Mennonite Mission Network.

**Elkhart office:** PO Box 370, Elkhart, IN 46515-0370

**Newton office:** 718 N. Main St., Newton, KS 67114-1703

**Toll-free:** 1-866-866-2872

**E-mail:** [Prayer@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:Prayer@MennoniteMission.net); **Web:** [www.MennoniteMission.net](http://www.MennoniteMission.net)



**Mennonite  
Mission  
Network**

The mission agency of  
Mennonite Church USA

June 2016

# Prayer Vine

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



C16-080/MAY-2016

- 1.** Mary Beyler praises God for increased attendance at Obihiro Mennonite Church in Japan, and requests prayer for three newcomers as they seek deeper fellowship with God. Also pray for the healing of Mary's leg and hip and for her summer's ministry in the United States.
- 2.** Thank God for the Movement of Anabaptist Women doing Theology in Latin America and their focus on prayer for the people of Panama, Paraguay and Peru, and the Global Network of Women.
- 3.** Lauren Francisco works as an expressive arts counselor at Eastwood Primary School in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Pray for her as she listens to stories of victims of neglect and trauma, and empowers them to be creators.
- 4.** Rejoice with Brad and Brenna Steury Graber on the birth of their son, Caleb, born Apr. 30 in France. Pray that Caleb's passport and Social Security number will be processed in time to return to the United States with his parents when their assignment ends in July.
- 5.** Pray for members of Youth Venture teams, ages 14–22, and their leaders as they enter into their service and learning experiences with partner communities in India and Indonesia.
- 6.** A person serving through Mission Network has a long and fruitful ministry of producing Christian literature in Mongolia. Pray for her as she seeks God's leading in choosing a project manager with skills in writing, editing and counseling.

**7.** The Mennonite seminary in Colombia, *Seminario Biblico Menonita de Colombia*, helps pastors and lay leaders deepen their knowledge, and inspires them to live out their faith every day. Pray for the seminary as it also offers courses in Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, and hopes to expand to other countries.

**8.** Jim and Paula Hanes request prayer for their colleagues at Mission Inter Senegal. This time of year, many short-term teams come from Asia, Europe and North America to work alongside them. Pray for the extensive work of organizing, for safety in travel, and that God's name will be glorified.

**9.** Brian and Noelia Fox praise God for the energy of many volunteers invested in the fifth annual *Origen* conference in Burgos, Spain, where 270 youth gathered to worship and deepen their faith. Pray that commitments to follow Jesus would continue to transform their lives on a daily basis.

**10.** This year, 20 percent of Mennonite Voluntary Service workers are serving with agencies to empower refugees and immigrants. These organizations provide food, clothing and housing, also offer long-term assistance such as language classes, legal referrals, and employment services, and promote structural change through advocacy.

**11.** Praise God for significant rain in Nepal last month, the first in seven months. Pray that Mission Network personnel can be showers of blessings as they allow God's love to be channeled through them to those who are thirsting for truth and abundant life.

**12.** Today, Linda Oyer leads a "walking church" in a 142-acre park near Paris, France. Pray for this tradition that makes it easy for people to invite their neighbors who would not easily enter a church. This year's theme is "The Symbolism of Water in the Bible."

**13.** Pray for the 70 students enrolled at the Toba/Qom Bible institute in the Argentine Chaco who are reading the Bible in their own language as they study theology and an overview of the Old Testament. May God touch their lives, as many don't participate in any church.

**14.** Martine Audéoud and Gary Wittig are moving to a new apartment in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, as Gary prepares to teach the next school year in neighboring Liberia. Pray especially for 8-year-old Samuel during these transitions, and for Martine's heavy teaching and administrative responsibilities in several seminaries.

**15.** Pray for SOOP volunteers at Koinonia Partners in Georgia who contribute to ministries of hospitality, gardening, maintenance, and working in the bakery.

**16.** Many Mission Network workers are serving through Bible literacy and translation projects in countries where becoming a Christian could lead to persecution. Pray for mission workers and local Christians in these places as they make God's word available in the heart language of the people among whom they live.

**17.** This month, Mark and Mary Hurst are running a film series in the congregation they co-pastor in Australia. Pray for God's justice to break through as their church participates in the Guringai Festival that celebrates First People's culture.

**18.** Pray for Jason and Tonya Yoder Rupp and their two children, Caitlin (8) and Logan (5), as they prepare to leave for Paraguay next month, where they will begin a one-year assignment at a Mennonite school, *Colegio Johannes Gutenberg Campo 9*.

**19.** Rejoice with Annette and Paco Castillo and the apprentices of the Christian home in Ivory Coast who have successfully completed their first trimester of improving their literacy while training as masons or electricians. Pray for all the children who have been welcomed into this community.

**20.** Service Adventure volunteers are nearing the end of their terms. Pray for them as they say goodbye to the households and the communities they've been a part of for the past 10 months. Ask God for smooth transitions as they take the next steps in their journeys.

**21.** Akiko Aratani and Ray Epp are directors of Menno Village, an agricultural initiative of Mennonite churches in Japan. Pray for them and their four children as they care for the land and promote food justice.

**22.** The Journey International team in Indonesia is completing their final month of immersion. Pray for them as they prepare to leave and for the many transitions they will need to negotiate in the coming weeks.

**23.** Linda Jo Gabino is the school nurse at Santiago Christian School in the Dominican Republic. Pray for her as she cares for students and staff and as she provides leadership in worship and music in her congregation.