

25. On this Christmas Day, pray for peace in the land where Jesus was born more than 2000 years ago. Pray especially for Mission Network partners — Bethlehem Bible College, Nazareth Hospital and Nazareth Village — that faithfully work to peel away the layers of fear and hate that distort Jesus' message of peace in a time of violence and great devastation in Israel-Palestine. (p. 13)

26. Today begins the week-long celebration of Kwanzaa, an annual festival of African-American culture. Each of the seven days of Kwanzaa celebrate a virtue, starting with *umoja* (unity). Pray for unity amid the diversity in our families, churches and global community.

27. A long-term mission couple has committed their lives to spreading the message of life-transforming faith in Jesus Christ, through the creative and culturally relevant use of media. Pray for the couple's safety and all their local partners in the Middle East as they engage in this sensitive witness.

28. SEMILLA, a regional Anabaptist seminary in Guatemala, provides theological education and online learning through *Comunidad de Instituciones Teológicas Anabautistas*, (CITA, Community of Anabaptist Theological Institutions). Pray for faculty and staff as they train church leaders from many neighboring countries. (p. 33)

29. Joseph and Rachel Givens are on the front lines of ministry to people fleeing persecution and death. Pray that the Givens will receive the spiritual and financial resources they need to continue sharing Christ's love through food and shelter at the Maria Skobtsova House, in Calais, France. (p. 23)

30. Praise God that the Bashilele people of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are now able to read the Bible in their mother tongue. Until the first *Kishelele* — the language of the Bashilele people — Bibles arrived in DRC last month, the Bashilele people read God's word in *Tshiluba* — one of the four national languages of DRC. Pray that God's word will bless those who read and hear it.

31. Although 2025 is ending with much suffering and violence in our country and around the world, pray that we will not tire of proclaiming our hope in Jesus, who has overcome evil and injustice. May we continue to "be the Gospel" wherever we find ourselves.

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December 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 2025 Mission Mosaic page number where more information can be found on workers, partners and programs. Order your free copy at www.MennoniteMission.net/Mosaic.

1. Akiko Aratani and Ray Epp, who began serving with Mission Network in Japan in 2007, are stepping back from managing the regenerative agriculture component of Menno Village. Pray for them as they build *Hitsuji* (Sheep) House, a place of spiritual retreat for joining with God in love, grace and truth. (p. 15)

2. Praise God for the ministry of Toni and Matthew Krabill, as they live in Ghana and walk alongside Christian leaders who are integrating Christian peace theology with African traditions of peacebuilding. Pray for them, and the many institutions they are working with, including The Center for Justice and Peace and The Sanneh Institute. (p. 10)

3. C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have "retired," in the sense that they are no longer employed, but they continue to be very active in leading spiritual retreats and mentoring. Pray for them as they continue to build on the foundation of 40 years of ministry in Paraguay. (p. 29)

4. Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill are directors of the Paris Mennonite Center. Laurel also teaches at a bilingual Montessori school and is a trained mediator. Pray for each member of their family and for Laurel, in particular, as she seeks God's guidance for coordinating the multiple requests for ministry. (p. 25)

5. New Service Adventure leaders are needed for the units that will begin in August 2026. Pray that those whom God is calling to fill these positions will say yes to a two-year term of mentoring young adults in their faith journeys. (p. 39)



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6. Today, Bokgoni Sporting Club is hosting a community day in Botswana. While building relationships, the club hopes to raise funds for a horticulture project that will serve to teach young people about raising food. Pray for a wonderful day of raising awareness and sharing God's love through sports, rides, face painting and food. (p. 11)

7. Join the United Mission to Nepal staff in praying for wisdom to navigate the complexities of the online world with integrity and compassion. Pray also for equitable access to digital resources, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to connect, learn and thrive. (p. 20)

8. Pray for Colleen and Pablo Fast as they walk alongside Brazilian church leaders and build relationships with members of their new congregation in Humaitá. (p. 30)

9. A professor of Islamic studies and Muslim-Christian relationships has committed her life to facilitating conversations and understandings between Christians and Muslims around the world. Pray for her health as she travels extensively. Pray also for her many friends who work in difficult situations of war and other forms of violence.

10. The Mennonite Voluntary Service unit in Tucson, Arizona, is composed of Hannah Lehman — who is serving a second year — Lleyton Stutzman and Juan Witmer. Pray for them as they work at CHRPA (Community Home Repair Projects of Arizona) and extend the ministries of their host congregation, Shalom Mennonite Fellowship. (p. 38)

11. Martine Audéoud requests prayer for the Ivory Coast in the aftermath of national presidential elections. Pray also for the many Christian universities that she works with in academic and administrative capacities, as they struggle to find financial resources. (p. 10)

12. Pray for a husband-and-wife team that is serving as support staff for United Mission to Nepal, in the roles of counseling advisor and expatriate coordinator. May God help them balance their professional ministries with family ministries, as two of their children are with them in Nepal and two are young adults living in North America. (p. 16)

13. Freddy Barrón and Margrit Kipfer Barrón have served with the Bolivia Mennonite Church since 1993. Pray for them as Freddy pastors a congregation and Margrit coordinates Christian education ministries. Together, they work to support church leadership formation and church plants. (p. 29)

14. Christy Harrison and Peter Sensenig were unable to renew their visas to continue ministry in Chad. Pray for them and their three children as they adjust to life in Montbéliard, France, and contribute to *La Prairie* Mennonite Church's ministry to Muslim immigrants. (p. 10)

15. Some Mennonite Voluntary Service and Service Adventure volunteers are traveling home for Christmas. Pray for their safety in travel and as they share about their experiences with their home communities. Other participants will celebrate their first Christmas away from their families. Pray that they may experience Jesus coming into this world in a new and deeper way. (pp. 37-39)

16. Pray for the growth and flourishing of the Mennonite Church of Ghana, which consists of 27 congregations in five districts. (p. 12)

17. This is Laura Schlabach's final month serving in Mongolia, as her 32-year ministry with JCS International is concluding. Pray for the hard goodbyes and a good ending. She will continue with Mission Network through March 2026 on North American Ministry, traveling to congregations and other supporters to give updates. (p. 17)

18. Praise God for how Laura and Nick Sharp and their children are adapting to life at the *Colegio Americano Menno* (CAM, American Mennonite School) in Colombia. Pray for them as they assist in teaching English, physical education and music classes at CAM and as they teach one day each week in a rural one-room school.

19. Kate Widmer has been serving alongside *La Prairie* Mennonite Church, in Montbéliard, France, in community outreach ministries since 2019. Pray for her as she works with a team to prepare culturally appropriate Christmas activities for women and children in her mostly Muslim neighborhood. (p. 25)

20. *Iziko Lamaqabane* is a group that seeks to live out a God-centered reconciling vision for the world. Pray for staff as they draw on Anabaptist theology and practice to promote justice and peace in South Africa and beyond. (p. 13)

21. Praise God that Caleb Schrock-Hurst has successfully finished his cancer treatments and is cancer free. Now, he and his wife, Stephanie, are moving forward with their plans to respond to an invitation to go to Mennonite Christian Hospital in Taiwan. Pray for physical and spiritual health as they resume preparations that were put on hold for a year. (p. 17)

22. Alfonsina and José Oyanguren request prayer for the people who attend the Qom Bible studies, that they might carry the love of Jesus into their communities in Argentina's Chaco region, and for those who are completing their secondary school education. (p. 30)

23. *Jeunes Espoir d'Afrique* (Youth-Hope of Africa) was founded to help child soldiers find a healthier way of life. Pray that the organization will have all the necessary resources to offer life skills, job training and spiritual renewal to youth in Ivory Coast. (p. 12)

24. Pray for a family engaged in a sensitive ministry in France as they invite people of all faiths, and no faith, to encounter Jesus through Christmas celebrations. (p. 24)