



Pray For Us Calendar

These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord's mission. Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at www.lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

MISSION MONTH – OCT. 1-15 Each year, congregations and members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are encouraged to celebrate October as “Mission Month,” a time to pray for and celebrate missionaries and mission work supported by the LCMS around the world.

Remember the Lord's work around the world during LCMS Mission Month as you pray:

- 1.** for the approximately 60 career missionary families who serve in countries around the world through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Pray that God would use these servants mightily to teach and preach the Gospel in the various roles to which He has called them.
- 2.** for the 100-plus individuals who serve as GEO missionaries alongside career missionaries and partner church congregations throughout the world. GEO missionaries serve for one- to two-year terms in various roles — as teachers, volunteer coordinators, human care workers and more.
- 3.** for the 200 military chaplains who are endorsed by the LCMS. Pray for these pastors who minister among the men and women of the Armed Forces, sharing the Gospel of hope and comfort when soldiers are in the midst of trying circumstances.
- 4.** for the 50-plus short-term teams, including more than 400 individuals, who serve through the LCMS on mission trips in an average year. These teams may conduct English outreach camps, provide medical services for those who do not typically have access to such care or help provide a spiritual retreat for missionary families.
- 5.** for mission work in countries where established LCMS partner churches continue to carry out Word and Sacrament ministry and preach the Good News in their communities. Many LCMS partner churches, in countries like Germany and Russia, pre-date the LCMS by several centuries.
- 6.** for mission work in countries where the LCMS currently works together with partner churches who are developing their own theological education systems and planting new congregations. Give thanks for their partnership and pray that the people in these nations would come to know Jesus Christ through the ministry of local Lutheran congregations.
- 7.** for members of the LCMS, as they consider the various ways in which they can be involved in God's mission — whether by praying, giving financial support, serving on a short-term mission team, applying for career missionary service or planning a mission celebration fair for their congregation.
- 8.** that Bible studies and small groups in LCMS churches would embrace the celebration of LCMS Mission Month by praying for mission work, giving toward a mission project or intentionally speaking about Jesus with their friends and neighbors.
- 9.** for “national mission work,” which includes special initiatives or outreach ministries in the United States, such as cross-cultural ministries, Rural and Small Town Mission, campus ministry and more. Pray that the Lord would help LCMS congregations and members recognize the communities around them as mission fields, filled with people who have not heard the truth of the Gospel.
- 10.** for ministry among Hispanic people and communities in the United States — carried out both by English- and Spanish-speaking LCMS congregations. Pray that God would use the people of the LCMS to make the Gospel of grace and truth known among this population — the largest minority in the United States.
- 11.** for specialized mission societies in the LCMS that raise awareness and resources for specific groups of people. Give thanks for their ministries and pray for continued cooperation and harmony between the many LCMS societies as they work towards the common goal of increasing our Lord's church.
- 12.** for ministry among African-American communities, both in historically black congregations and other congregations. Give thanks for the LCMS leaders who have led the way since the late 1800s.
- 13.** with thanksgiving for the continuing support of LCMS auxiliaries (Lutheran Women's Missionary League and Lutheran Hour Ministries). Give thanks for their dedication to spreading the Word of the Lord in the United States and beyond — and pray that the Lord would continue to use them to mobilize the gifts of LCMS members.
- 14.** for LCMS districts' staff and congregations, as they seek to make the best use of limited resources to encourage one other and draw more people in their districts into Lutheran communities of faith.
- 15.** that LCMS members would include Mission Month in their Reformation celebration — remembering and celebrating that the Gospel message, based on Scripture alone, faith alone and grace alone, is for the entire world.

Involvement Ideas

- Learn more about the 90-plus countries in which the LCMS actively supports mission work or maintains mission relationships. Visit www.lcms.org/international to browse a list of these countries.



- Learn more about LCMS witness and mercy work in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Visit www.lcms.org/czechrepublic and www.lcms.org/slovakia.

- Read more about the missionaries who serve in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and consider supporting them through prayers and offerings. Download their prayer cards at www.lcms.org/prayercards.

- Contact the LCMS Information Center to learn more about how you can subscribe to the regular newsletters of missionaries serving in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Call 888-843-5267 or send an email to infocenter@lcms.org.

CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA – SEPT. 16-30 The Czech Republic and Slovakia were once united as a single nation — Czechoslovakia — from 1918 to 1992. Since Jan. 1, 1993, these two countries have peacefully co-existed as sovereign entities.

Remember God's work in the Czech Republic and Slovakia as you pray:

16. *for missionaries David and Radka Fiala and family, who live in Slovakia, and who support missionaries and mission work in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.* Give thanks for their service and pray that the Lord would continue to use them to expand mission and ministry among the people of Central Europe.

17. *for GEO missionary A.J. Davis, who serves in Kosice, Slovakia, where he teaches English-as-a-Foreign-Language classes through a local Lutheran high school as an outreach to non-Christians in the community.* He also helps to lead and coordinate activities such as Bible studies and youth group. (GEO missionaries serve in countries around the world for one- to two-year terms.)

18. *for GEO missionary Karin Moore, who serves in Levice, Slovakia.* Karin is based out of a local congregation of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia. She teaches English classes in local public schools and works with women's groups at the local congregation. Through both of these ministries, Karin builds relationships, prays for opportunities to share the Gospel of Christ and seeks to connect people to the local congregation.

19. *for the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia (ECAV SK), with whom the LCMS works in partnership in Slovakia.* This church body's congregations provide English-teaching sites for GEO missionaries and short-term teams, and is also a partner of the LCMS in the realm of theological education of current and future pastors.

20. *for the ministry of the ECAV SK's seminary, based out of Bratislava, which trains future pastors for ministry.* Ask the Lord to raise up more men to serve in a pastoral capacity and to bless the studies of current seminary students.

21. *for the ministry of the Lutheran Gymnazium, a high school in Tisovec, Slovakia.* Many LCMS missionaries have taught there for one- to two-year terms since the early 90s, and have built relationships with students and fellow staff that have provided opportunities to share the Gospel. Pray that the Lord would continue to bless this ministry and provide new missionaries to serve at this school.

22. *for GEO missionary Deaconess Juliana Hirsch, who serves in the Czech Republic.* She teaches English classes at a local Czech Lutheran church, through which she builds relationships with students and their families and seeks opportunities to share the Gospel.

23. *for GEO missionary Margaret Lewis, who also serves in the Czech Republic.* She teaches English classes, which gives her opportunities to build relationships with local people as she seeks to share the Gospel with them.

24. *for GEO missionary Ryan Volkman, who serves in the Czech Republic, where he teaches English-as-a-Foreign-Language classes as a way of building relationships and sharing the Gospel.* Ryan also works with a mission organization within the Selesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession, the church body with whom the LCMS works in the Czech Republic.

25. *for the Selesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (SCAEV) and the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Czech Republic (ECAV CZ), the two Lutheran church bodies with whom the LCMS works in the Czech Republic.* Pray that these church bodies would continue to work in harmony with each other and with the LCMS, so that the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be furthered in the Czech Republic.

26. *with thanksgiving for the short-term mission teams that served in the Czech Republic and Slovakia this past summer.* These teams used Concordia Publishing House's vacation Bible school curriculum, "The Amazing Desert Journey," to teach English and share the truth of God's Word with the students who attended their English Bible camps.

27. *for the children who attended these camps.* Ask the Holy Spirit to continue working in their hearts and minds as they reflect on the Bible stories that they were taught and remember the love in action they saw as the short-term team members led them.

28. *for the translation of Luther's Small Catechism into Slovak and increased availability of other theological resources in the Slovak language.* Give thanks for those who are working diligently on this and other translation projects.

29. *that the Lord would provide more personnel to serve as GEO missionaries at Slovak schools and congregations.* Those who have served in this capacity build valuable relationships and open doors to reaching new people in their communities.

30. *for the people of the Czech Republic and Slovakia — that there may be an awakening of spiritual hunger and a desire to know the true God and His Son, Jesus Christ.* About 30 percent of the Czech Republic's population identifies themselves as atheist.

31. *for the people of Slovakia — that they would come to faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.* Pray that the nation's Christian roots would be an encouragement to modern Slovaks as they seek answers to questions of faith and life.

Missionary & Personnel Birthdays

Download missionary and other personnel prayer cards from the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/prayercards.

- Oct. 1** Tatyana Umphenour, Asia
- Oct. 4** Graham Guenther, Taiwan; Lois Mahsman, Germany; Brent Smith, Germany
- Oct. 5** Patricia Klekamp, Asia
- Oct. 7** Anita Kipp, Asia
- Oct. 12** Darin Storkson, Singapore
- Oct. 13** Cathy Carlos, Guinea
- Oct. 14** Aimee Cima, Vietnam
- Oct. 20** Susan Mehl, Hong Kong
- Oct. 22** Arthur Rickman, Dominican Republic
- Oct. 25** Anthony DiLiberto, Peru
- Oct. 27** A.J. Davis, Slovakia; Stephanie Jones, Germany; Matt Myers, Macau
- Oct. 31** Yoko Piescer, Japan

Military chaplains with birthdays in October:

Chaplain Vincent Bain, Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.; Chaplain Quentin Genke, McConnell AFB, Kan.; Chaplain Russell Helbig, Hillsborough, N.C.; Chaplain William Keller, Germany; Chaplain Scott Kirchoff, Jesup, Ga.; Chaplain Mark Moss, Germany; Chaplain Scott Simpson, McChord, Wash.; Chaplain Jon Smithley, Tyler AFB, Fla.; Chaplain Richard Townes, Seattle, Wash.