

26. Pray for Mission Network partners in Nigeria — the 45 congregations of Nigeria Mennonite Church and the Nigeria Anabaptist Peace Center, which equips church leaders with conflict transformation skills in a context in which religious tensions can become violent. (p. 12)

27. Pray for Mennonite Partners in China, especially Pastor Yin Hongtao and his colleagues, who share the message of peace, through Anabaptist resources and the message of Jesus' true shalom. (p. 18)

28. The Anabaptist Mennonite Trust, a network of individuals, communities and organizations in England, deepens understanding of Anabaptist and Mennonite values. Pray for this ministry's outreach, through seminars, webinars and the Centre for Anabaptist studies. (p. 25)

29. Eduardo Mendúa, director of international relations for the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE), was murdered in February. He was one of the Cofán leaders who resisted the encroachment of the state oil company into Indigenous territory. Pray for Eduardo's family, the Cofán community and justice.

30. Praise God for the growth of the Mennonite Bible School in South Africa. Pray for wisdom and strength for the school's director, Reuben Mgodeli. Pray, also, for a working vehicle to facilitate his teaching responsibilities. (p. 12)

31. Today, Jeff and Kelsey Hostetler and their three daughters — Ella, age 8, and twins Amelia and Ava, age 5 — are beginning a two-week SOOP assignment at *Colegio Americano Menno* (Menno American School), a pre-K to grade 12 school in La Mesa, Colombia. Pray for them as they help in classrooms and learn how to build peace, Colombian-style. (p. 41)

Prayer Vine is published monthly by Mennonite Mission Network.

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May 2023

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 2023 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. Alfonsina and José Oyanguren request prayer for the more than 40 people from 15 communities in Argentina's Chaco region who are helping voice dub the *Jesus Film* in the Toba Qom language. Pray that those who participate will be led into a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and his love for all people. (p. 30)
2. Today, JCS International, a consortium of Christian organizations working in Mongolia, begins three days of annual general and board meetings. Pray for God's Spirit to provide insight and guide the decision-making that will affect the collaborative ministry. (p. 19)
3. Odesa Theological Seminary in Ukraine is offering courses on trauma healing. Pray for the resources and personnel to equip church leaders to respond with compassion and skills to the millions of people who have lost loved ones and homes due to Russia's invasion.
4. Pray for Zanele Kolo, as she adapts her training from Eastern Mennonite University's Peacebuilding Institute to the realities of South Africa, through SADRA Conflict Transformation. (p. 12)
5. Liz Breckbill, Jake Myers and Theo Yoder, participants in the Alamosa (Colorado) Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) unit, are discerning how to integrate what they have learned in the past year, as they prepare for transitions into medical school (Theo) and ministry in Colombia (Liz). Pray also for Jake as he continues in a second year of MVS. (p. 37)



APR-2023

- 6.** Marisa Smucker assumed the responsibilities of interim executive director of Mission Network in March. Pray for God's wisdom and strength as she leads the agency.
- 7.** Praise God with Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton for a much-appreciated Andean Anabaptist Gathering in Ecuador. Pray that the connections developed during this conference will enable the churches in Ecuador, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela to work together more effectively as Christ's body, as they respond to the needs of their communities. (p. 29)
- 8.** Mark and Stephanie Bartsch have served in Japan since 2009. Pray for them as they lead an online house church and teach — Mark at a Christian middle school and Stephanie at the preschool and university levels. (p. 15)
- 9.** Matthew and Toni Krabill serve at the Paris Mennonite Center in France. Pray for them as they develop Anabaptist missiological resources for French-speaking churches and theological education institutions throughout the world. (p. 23)
- 10.** Some of the people who fled civil war in Angola (1975-2002) were welcomed by Mennonites in the Democratic Republic of Congo and became part of their churches. Now, as Angolan Mennonites have returned to their homeland, they are requesting help from Mission Network's partner, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, to establish farming cooperatives. Pray for *Semente Menonita* (Mennonite Seed), one of those cooperatives. (p. 10)
- 11.** Miriam Offe, Daniel Schumacher, Lukas Tepper, Melanie Wenger, and unit leaders Josh and Stefanie Musser and their children make up the Johnstown (Pennsylvania) Service Adventure unit. Pray for them as they join the ministries of six congregations, through agencies that provide preschool-aged childcare, after-school enrichment and medical care for the uninsured. (p. 40)
- 12.** Praise God for the ministries of Christian Health Educators in sensitive areas of the Asian continent.
- 13.** Austin Roberts, based in Northern Ireland, serves through Youth With A Mission in Northern Ireland. Pray for him as he conducts discipleship training and teaches both locally and internationally. (p. 23)
- 14.** On this Mother's Day, we request prayer for all those, who have lost their mothers or have never had someone to call "Mother." May we, as the family of God, stretch our minds and enlarge our hearts to include all God's children around the world in a strong and loving embrace.
- 15.** Today, Colleen and Pablo Fast are travelling from Brazil to the United States for 3 ½ months of sharing with their supporting congregations and individuals about how God is working in Brazil. Pray for rest and renewal, as they also reconnect with family and friends. (p. 30)
- 16.** The Kalonda Bible Institute in the Democratic Republic of Congo and its director, Bercie Mundedi, have suffered many challenges in recent years, including being targeted during armed rebellions. Pray that this school that trains Mennonite church leaders will flourish through the implementation of Assets Based Community Development principles.
- 17.** Naomi Leary, Mission Network's director for Mennonite Voluntary Service and Service Adventure, requests prayer for courage and faith for young adults who are considering a year of service beginning in August. God can speak through you, as you encourage them to use their gifts to join the work of God in the world. (pp. 37-40)
- 18.** Akiko Aratani and Ray Epp facilitate training sessions in sustainable agriculture and creation care throughout Southeast Asia. Pray for them as they transition away from managing Menno Village, an organic farm in Japan, and address structural violence against small farmers. (p. 15)
- 19.** David and Rebekka Stutzman and their three children have made their home in Germany since 2012. Pray for them as they continue to build relationships and call people to follow Jesus. (p. 24)
- 20.** C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz have served in Paraguay since 1985. Pray for them as they invite people into deeper communion with God, through business chaplaincy, teaching and spiritual direction. (p. 29)
- 21.** According to the Global Terrorism Index, Burkina Faso is one of the countries most affected by terrorist activity, second only to Afghanistan. Join our siblings at the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Burkina Faso in praying and working for peace. (p. 11)
- 22.** Angela (Wenger) and Tomoki Yamanaka are associate co-pastors of the Asahikawa Gospel Church in Hokkaido, Japan. Pray for them and their four children as they offer their hands and feet for God's work, in addition to preaching God's word. (p. 17)
- 23.** Kate Widmer serves alongside *La Prairie* Mennonite Church in the Alsace region of France. Pray for her as she assists with community outreach ministries, such as facilitating groups for women and children and being a presence in the congregation's café and bookstore. (p. 24)
- 24.** Elena and Freddy Satalaya, and two-year-old Matías, are serving with Bolivia Mennonite Church. Pray for them as they engage in discipleship training and leadership training. (p. 31)
- 25.** Bethlehem Bible College trains Arabic-speaking church leaders for ministry in Israel-Palestine. Pray for the faculty and the 125 students, who are studying despite political unrest and the challenges of being part of a Christian minority. (p. 13)