



Monday, January 1 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - "'African churches sending African missionaries to the ends of the earth' is the vision of those of us serving in Sub-Saharan Africa. Many times, the children are overlooked within the church in Africa. Where will these African missionaries come from if we don't start teaching them when they are young? Pray that through African communities, God will reach the nations. Pray for the local church to teach families how to love and empower their children--and for the leaders to lead by example. Pray for the local church to recognize that their children can reach the world with the gospel!"

Tuesday, January 2 - Theological Education in Malawi- Please pray for unity for pastors and church leaders in Malawi. Pray that they will be unified in Christ, recognizing that they are one body in Christ and need to work together for the advancement of His kingdom.

Wednesday, January 3 - Theological Education in Zambia - The Theological Education Team writes: "We give praise to the Lord for the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zambia because at the end of this month, BTSZ will celebrate one of its largest graduating classes ever, including our first-ever graduates in the Master of Theology program! Pray for our graduates as the Lord leads them out to serve Zambian churches in various roles and needs."

Thursday, January 4 - Last Frontier - Many ministries are trying to engage an unreached people group (UPG) with the gospel, and they need your prayers. The gospel is being shared on a regular basis. Please pray for those who are hearing it, that they will have faith to believe in Jesus. Bible studies are happening weekly, with two new ones just being started. Pray for God's Word to be believed and lived out in their daily lives. Please pray for the seeker classes and events, asking that seekers will become disciples who faithfully follow Jesus. Please pray for the trauma healing classes, that the people will experience both emotional and spiritual healing through salvation. Please pray for these and other outreaches that are happening, that God will use all of them to bring this UPG into a relationship with Him through faith in Jesus.

Friday, January 5 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - In Genesis 45:4-5 (ESV), Joseph confessed who he was to his brothers and showed them that he loved them and knew that God was with him the entire time they had been separated. The end of verse 5 says: "For God sent me before you to preserve life." As missionaries go overseas to serve, they don't know what lies ahead of them, especially the difficulties. One missionary could write, "I didn't know that I would have a road accident and a child hurt." Another could say, "I didn't know that there would be a fire and all our possessions would be consumed." Still another could tell you, "I didn't know that our son would die on the field." Each of these missionaries would follow these statements with, "But God was there with us, and He showed us that He was there with us, and this or that happened, which resulted in lives being saved eternally." Please pray for the missionaries as they walk through difficult times, asking that they will trust the Father in those difficulties and beyond them.

Saturday, January 6 - Lusaka, Zambia - (loo-SAH-kah) - Sharen, one of the four women who attend their weekly Bible study thought she would soon be released in September. They'd received a presidential pardon. The Greater Lusaka Area Team writes: "Please pray for Sharen. Because of a mistake in calculating the dates of her prison term, she was not able to be released when she had anticipated in September. This has been a heartbreaking time of confusion and despair for her . . . but God! She is learning to trust in Him and can even see how the Bible stories of the Old Testament we are sharing each week can give her hope that God is in control and sees her and has good plans for her life. Pray that Sharen will continue to grow in her faith."

Sunday, January 7 - Sub-Saharan African Unengaged Peoples - Pray for those who live in fear, trying to appease spirits through sacrifices, believing them to be their intermediaries between man and God. Pray that they will understand that Jesus Christ is the only intermediary between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5). As they hear the truth of God's Word, pray that they will be compelled to abandon everything for Him and His name's sake.

Monday, January 8 - Chuabo of Mozambique - (SHWAH-boh) - Pray that the Chuabo churches will love God with all their heart, soul, and mind, and ask that they will love their neighbor as themselves (Matthew 22:36-40). Also pray that the Chuabo churches will be emboldened by the Holy Spirit to share the gospel, regardless of real consequences for doing so.

Tuesday, January 9 - Theological Education in Malawi - Please pray for missionary Chris Schilt as he travels to Mfuwe, Zambia, to observe and participate in a Baptist Fellowship of Zambia Rural Bible School this month. Chris will be meeting with International Mission Board colleagues and Zambian pastors to discuss the logistics and curriculum of these Bible Schools to find ways to implement some similar strategies in the rural Bible Schools and pastors' training schools in Malawi. Please pray for safety in travel and for mutual encouragement for all involved. Please also pray for the students attending this Bible School to be further equipped for the important role to which God has called them.

Wednesday, January 10 - Angola - This is from Steve and Clara Evans, "Pray for us as we wrap up our time of service overseas and shift to a final 14 months of being part of Team Angola from the US. We depart Luanda on 31 January 2024, and will continue as part of the team 'til our official retirement in mid-April 2025. While in the US we'll be establishing ourselves in a home the Lord has graciously provided in Alton, Iowa, very near Mark and Jodie and their family. We're very thankful for them and for friends whom we already know who are part of that community. We also look forward to connecting with many of you as

we travel around the US. We have been with our organization - the IMB - for forty-two years now. They have been good years and will be missed as we transition to establishing a life in the US."

Thursday, January 11 - Chuabo of Mozambique - (SHWAH-boh) - Please pray for the Chuabo churches and their leadership as they take time out during this month to pray and plan for what God wants them to do next year. Pray for wisdom and knowledge as they seek God's will for them. Pray for unity in the body of Christ as plans come together. Pray that the church will grow during this time of planning for the new year.

Friday, January 12 - Global Health Strategies Network - "Multiple sites around the world are seeking healthcare personnel to serve as healthcare strategists. These sent-out ones will work with church-planting teams already on the ground, helping them to assess the human needs around them and devise strategies that meet those needs and extend the church-planting efforts of the team. Ask the Father to send His people out into these roles so that we may be better able to preach and heal."

Saturday, January 13 - Lilongwe, Malawi, and Beyond - (li-LONG-way) - "Depending on the website you look at, Malawi is ranked somewhere within the top 10 poorest countries in the world," writes the Malawi Team. "Almost everyone here relies on subsistence farming in some way to provide for themselves and their families. The rainy season typically begins in mid-December, but some years, it comes quite late. Please join with us in praying for good rains to come in good time for the fields of Malawi. There are times when too much or too heavy rains fall and flood fields, and seeds are washed away. We know that God is the one who provides rain for the field, strength for the farmer, and produce for the harvest. As you pray for the physical rain and health of the fields in Malawi, pray for the spiritual fields here, as well. Intercede for us as we faithfully plant and water the hearts of Malawians whom we are discipling or with whom we are sharing the gospel. Please ask God to continue to provide the increase."

Sunday, January 14 - Last Frontier - Please pray for several Christmas events that happened in December. They each were planned with the goal of sharing the gospel with families of an unreached people group (UPG). Believers had diligently prepared for these special outreaches, which include: a Christmas cooking class, a children's party, an arts and crafts class for moms and preschoolers, a Christmas worship service, and other events to engage the community and share the real meaning of Christmas. Please pray for these events and for the salvation of those who hear the gospel.

Monday, January 15 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - "Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born." As you sing this hymn, pray for missionaries who are doing this very thing. As they go over mountains, over hills, in valleys, in cities, down alleyways, in homes, in tea fields, on the beaches, on the islands, in the taxis, in the classrooms, and everywhere, pray that each time they share the good news of Jesus, hearts will be receptive and God will change lives. "Thank you, Southern Baptists, for your gifts to the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon offering that allow us to continue going to tell the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere!"

Tuesday, January 16 - Theological Education in Malawi - "Our Malawi Team is partnering this month with a Great Commission Christian (GCC) agency to teach pastors in the cities of Blantyre and Lilongwe. We'll be teaching various subjects in systematic theology. Please pray for missionary Chris Schilt, our Malawian partners teaching with us, and the volunteers from the GCC agency as they travel, teach, and fellowship together with the Bible students. Please pray for these Bible students to be further prepared for the important task to which they've been called."

Wednesday, January 17 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - Thank you for giving to the Lottie Moon offering. Did you know that your gifts help to send missionaries to places where people have never heard

about Jesus? Many Africans are friendly and hospitable, appearing joyful on the outside, yet they do not know the true joy that comes from knowing Christ. Ask the Lord to send someone to these places so that the gospel can be proclaimed and these people can learn about eternal spiritual joy.

Thursday, January 18 - Equatorial Guinea - (EH-kwuh TOR-ee-ul GIH-nee) - Malabo, Equatorial Guinea's capital city, is not located on the mainland of the country but rather on the island of Bioko. Because of the challenges related to this disconnection, a new capital called City of Peace is being constructed on the mainland. As followers of Christ celebrate the Prince of Peace this month, pray especially for those who live near City of Peace to have many opportunities to share about Jesus, the source of true peace.

Friday, January 19 - Last Frontier - Please pray for new ministry that is happening among an unreached people group. Workers moved there in August. Please pray for successful transitions into the community, language, culture, and ministry to the people. A couple more workers arrived last month. Please pray the same for them as they settle into their new home. New work among a UPG will require developing good relationships with the community and partners. Please pray that God will guide and bless in both so they can effectively spread the gospel among these people.

Saturday, January 20 - Northern Coastal Peoples of Mozambique - Before unrest hit the northern coast of Mozambique, a community center was open that taught English, computer skills, and various other trades to children, youth, men, and women in a small community heavily populated by followers of a false religion. When the North was attacked, the center was attacked, as well. Now, three years later, the building has been restored, and people are moving back to the city. What this city lacks now is a team--a team of brothers and sisters in Christ who will run the center, teaching trades as a "door into the community," all while incorporating the hope of Christ in every lesson. Please pray that God will raise up Mozambican brothers and sisters who will boldly go into that dark place. Pray that the light of Christ will shine boldly there once again!

Sunday, January 21 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - Give thanks to God for His work among African leaders forming Africans on Mission! This new organization, officially begun in October 2023, will come alongside African churches to help them equip, train, send, and support African missionaries to the furthest reaches of Africa and to the ends of the earth. Pray for the many African leaders who have joined together in cultivating the growth of this new organization. Pray for their needed finances and other resources. Pray for wisdom as they take the first steps, gathering church leaders and learning how best to come alongside them for missions. All the leaders working together in this organization have significant other responsibilities--jobs, ministries, churches--so pray for their time and efforts to be multiplied. Every tribe and nation God created has a unique role to play in reflecting the image of God to the world. Pray for this group of Africans as they continue to play their roll both individually in the countries and churches they represent and together in this new undertaking to serve the broader African church.

Monday, January 22 - Chopi of Southern Mozambique - (SHOW-pee) - "On a quiet Thursday afternoon, four men sit together in the cooler shade of the braided coconut palms. They share tales of the previous week and crack open the Word together. Some squint to see the becoming-familiar text. One leans into his neighbor to help him locate the chapter and verse. And there in the simplicity of the afternoon sky, their hearts grow together through God's words. Discipleship often looks very simple here in the bush, but the fruit is something to behold as these men rise up in their community and become known as 'those that do not practice our tradition.' Thank the Lord for their witness that has drawn others to the Lord's feet, and thank the Lord for their heart to identify and even start new discipleship relationships in their community! Please also join our Southern Mozambique Team in praying for their continued growth in the Lord as they give their lives for His glory."

Tuesday, January 23 - Globalization, Global Engagement - The Globalization Team writes: "The children of many of our Global Missionary Partners face the unique challenge of not knowing English or the host language of the country in which they are living. Please pray for good, long-term education opportunities for the children of partners who come to serve alongside us as part of our team to reach the lost."

Wednesday, January 24 - Lusaka, Zambia - (loo-SAH-kah) - Pray for the university ministry in Lusaka, asking that students who come to study at the highest academic level will also find Jesus! Pray that they will hear the good news of Jesus and have their lives changed.

Thursday, January 25 - Angola - Pastor Lopes Sambuando, Margarida Chilanda Mango, and Steve Evans (M) have been asked to develop and implement a convention School of Missions. Plans are to have it oral based, using Scripture narratives as course content. Being considered is a certificate in evangelism and missiology, a certificate in biblical studies, and a certificate in healthy church formation. Perhaps a certificate in leadership development would also be appropriate! Lopes is the director of the convention's Department of Evangelism and Missions and Margarida is the director of the convention's Department of Religious Education and Publications. Pray for them!

Friday, January 26 - Angola - Missionaries Joseph and Shawna Bell have moved to a large city in southern Angola in order to be closer to the majority of the country's unengaged, unreached people groups and to work with Baptist churches in that part of the country as they seek to engage these people groups with the good news. Pray for the Bells and their Angolan partners as they strive not only to engage the lost with the gospel, but also to disciple those who become followers of Christ.

Saturday, January 27 - Holding Firm Theology in Africa - Pray that the churches in Africa will have teachers and pastors who desire to grow in their dedication to God's Word even when no one is watching. Pray that the churches will grow in love and holiness as they reach out to the lost. May their love for God be contagious and their light shine so that others will desire to know God.

Sunday, January 28 - Global Health Strategies Network - As students get ready for the new year, many in healthcare disciplines will be raising support for a short-term trip they have planned for the coming summer. Ask the Lord of the harvest to guide these students as they prepare, to keep their enthusiasm high for their field of service, and to provide all the needs for financial and prayer support as they move toward these life-changing experiences.

Monday, January 29- Last Frontier - Please pray for Inho, who recently became a believer. Pray he will follow the Lord in obedience to baptism and that he will boldly share the gospel with his wife and children. Please pray for this man who is a husband and father, that he will grow spiritually strong and lead his family to love and follow God.

Tuesday, January 30 - Theological Education in Zambia - The Theological Education Team asks: "Pray for new students enrolling in the seminary program to have hearts to grow in the knowledge and understanding of the Lord. Pray that they will see the need for theological training so that we will have healthy churches in Zambia that love and honor the Lord."

Wednesday, January 31 - Sub-Saharan African Peoples - "Join us in praying that the African believers will stand firm under affliction, knowing that God has them in His hand and will never let go, so they will know that His grace is sufficient."

